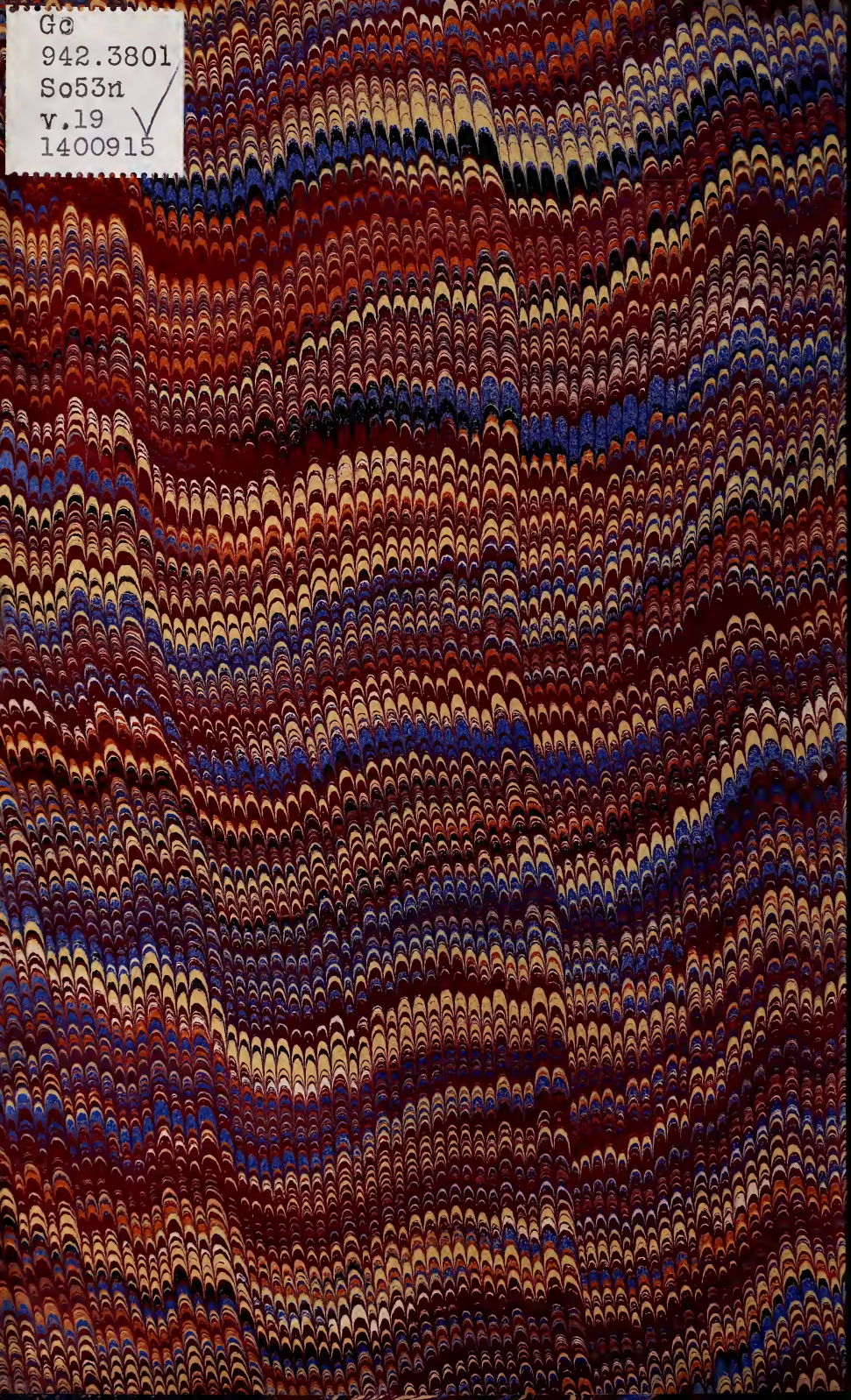


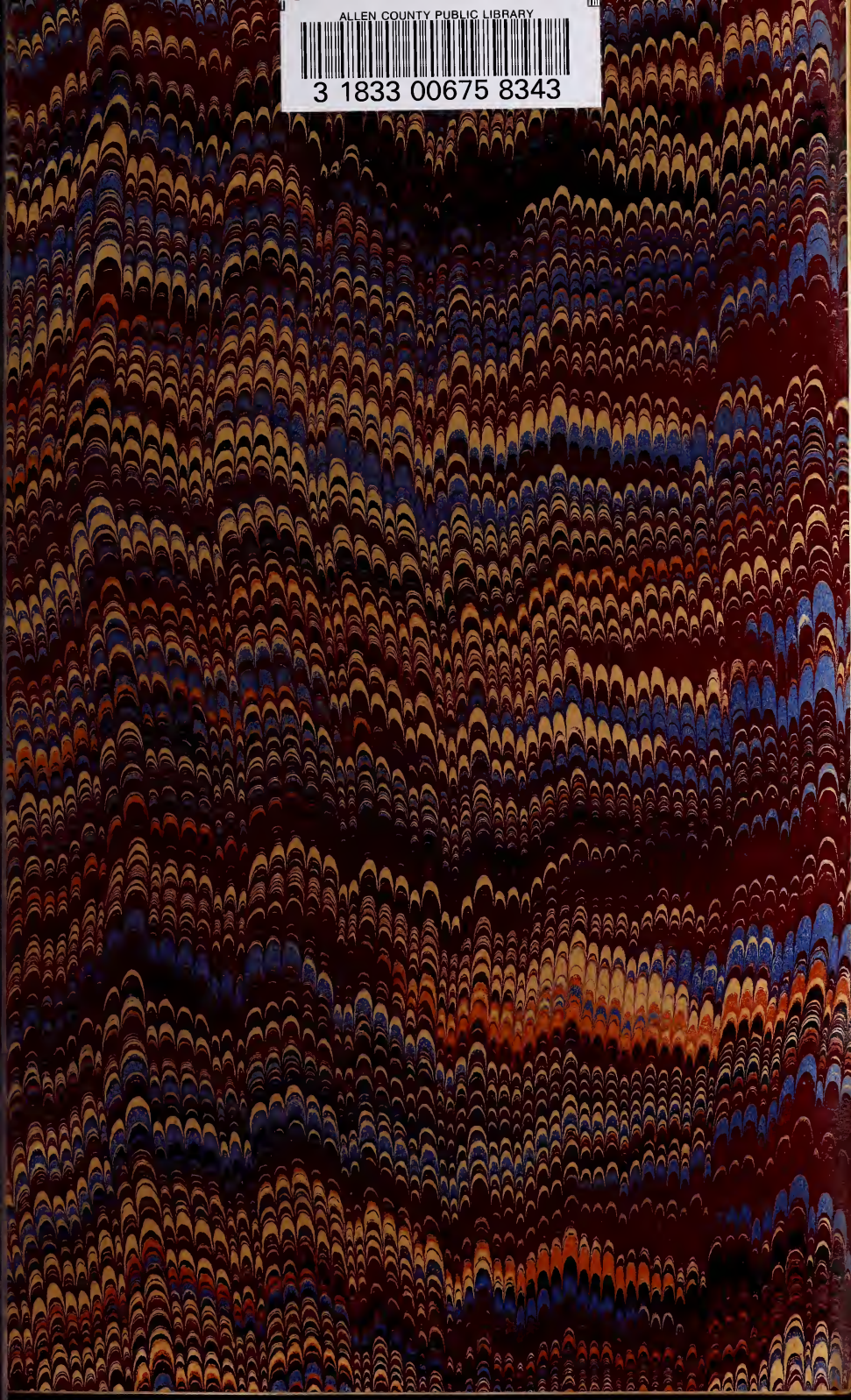
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SOMERSETSHIRE
ARCHÆOLOGICAL
AND
NATURAL HISTORY
SOCIETY'S PROCEEDINGS,
1873



VOL. XIX

TAUNTON

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In consequence of a press of work, Mr. J. T. Irvine has been unable to prepare the diagrams to illustrate his paper on the Cathedral Church of Wells. As it was uncertain when they would be ready, I have not delayed the publication of the volume for them ; but, I am glad to say that, Mr. Irvine has kindly promised them in time for our next volume.

W. H.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY,
FOR THE YEAR 1873.

THE Twenty-fifth Annual Meeting of the Society was held at WELLS, on Tuesday, August 19th, 1873, in the Town Hall.

The public proceedings began at midday. The Chair was taken by the President, Mr. W. A. SANFORD, F.G.S., who paid a tribute to the memory and services of Mr. W. A. JONES, the late Secretary of the Society. Mr. Jones by his unremitting attention, by his considerable ability, by his genial manners and general kindness, had done very much for the Society, and his death would be a heavy and perhaps an irreparable loss, for it would be difficult to re-

place him. Mr. Sanford congratulated the Society on having gained the consent of the Bishop of the Diocese to succeed him in the office of President, and said that it was a fortunate thing that we had a Church, which was not afraid to look boldly into what might be the truth concerning any subject, and that the Society was fortunate in that the head of the Church in that county and diocese had agreed to take the office of President. Mr. Sanford then vacated the Chair, and upon the motion of Mr. F. H. DICKINSON, seconded by COL. PINNEY, the Bishop was voted into it by acclamation as President for the year.

The Honorary Secretary, the Rev. W. HUNT, then read the

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

“In giving a Report of the proceedings of the Society since its last Annual Meeting, the first thing to be noticed is the Resolution mentioned in the first paragraph of last year’s Report, that copies should be made of the Indexes of the three principal Record Books of the Chapter of Wells for publication in the Proceedings of the Society. We are glad to be able to state that the two most important Indexes have been finished, and the third is now more than half gone through. The Society are under much obligation to Mr. Dickinson, and to Mr. Serel and Mr. Fielder for the trouble they have taken in this work.

“The same Committee that attended to the above also took charge of the proceedings of the Society connected with the Bill for the Preservation of Historical Monuments. Only three of such Monuments in Somersetshire have been noted in the schedule, viz.:—The Druidical Circles at Stanton Drew, the Chambered Tumulus at Stoney Littleton, and Cadbury Camp. It is hoped, however, that the

other objects of interest in the county will be left with safety to the good feeling of the owners and occupiers of the land where they are situated. Mr. Dickinson and the late Secretary, Mr. Jones, were kind enough to see Sir John Lubbock, the promoter of the Bill, and the thanks of the Society are due to them for the trouble they took in the matter.

“Many specimens of Natural History and objects of general interest have been added to our collections during the year, though none of sufficient importance to require special mention. An increasing interest in such things is shown by the number of persons who have visited the Museum. Before long it will be absolutely necessary to find a larger space for the display of the collections belonging to the Society, which are already more crowded than they ought to be, and it is only through careful and methodical arrangement by the Curator, Mr. Bidgood, that room is made for them.

“Several new Members have been added to the Society.

“In the month of February last it was brought to the notice of the Committee that the old Castle of Taunton might be purchased at a moderate price, viz., £3,000. The idea was immediately and warmly taken up. A special meeting of the Council to consider the question was held on the 5th of March, under the presidency of W. A. Sanford, Esq., when it was resolved—‘With the view of securing so interesting a monument of antiquity, that the Castle of Taunton and its adjacent grounds (as set forth in the plan laid before the Council by Mr. Maynard), or so much of it as may be found convenient, be purchased by public subscription, under the auspices of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History

‘Society. Should this property be purchased, that the buildings be utilized for the purposes of the Society, and that the grounds be carefully laid out as a public garden. That in furtherance of the above object, subscriptions be invited both from the town and county, and that a letter embodying the above should be circulated with the view of obtaining subscriptions.’ A general circulation of the views of the Council on the subject is now in progress. As has been already stated, more space is urgently wanted for the accommodation of the Society. If this purchase is made it will supply this need, and a most interesting historical monument, which might be made the pride of the county, will be preserved.

“It is our melancholy duty to ask you to place on the records of this meeting the great loss that our Society has sustained in the death of Mr. Wm. Arthur Jones. To a more than ordinary knowledge on general and archæological subjects, and a scientifically cultured mind, which rendered him one of the most valuable officers that this Society ever had, Mr. Jones added a kindness of heart and amenity of manner which endeared him to all who had the pleasure of knowing him, and those who knew him best lament him most.

“We have also to regret the loss of the services of Dr. Pring. The very considerable scientific attainments of this gentleman have been of the greatest value to this Society, and we regret that want of health and leisure will prevent his giving us that assistance which has been so valuable.

“The Rev. Wm. Hunt, of Congresbury, and Mr. O. W. Malet, of Haygrass, near Taunton, have been requested to act as Honorary Secretaries.

“We beg to recommend that Mr. Bidgood, the Curator of the Society, should in addition to the post which he already holds, be appointed Assistant Secretary of the Society, his salary being at the same time increased by £20 a year, in recognition of his valuable and faithful services.

“Your Committee recommend that the word ‘three’ be substituted for the word ‘five’ in Rule VI., as the number necessary to form a quorum.”

Mr. SANFORD, in moving the adoption of the Report, said that he hoped that the Society would not neglect the opportunity of buying Taunton Castle: the price named was £3,000, of this £1,000 had been already raised, and he thought that if another £1,000 could be raised, it would be advisable to make the purchase at once, and take up the remainder of the money upon mortgage.

Mr. G. T. CLARK pointed out the archæological value of the Castle. It occupied the site of the fortress of King Ine, which was built in the very earliest years of the eighth century. Most of the building now standing dates from the reign of Henry I., and it was a place of considerable importance during the Civil War of the 17th century. Mr. Clark also remarked on the great inconvenience which arose from the smallness of the space into which the valuable collections of the Society had to be crowded, and earnestly called upon the Members to use strenuous efforts to place in their own safe keeping such an interesting monument of the history of the county, and to secure a suitable place in which their collections might be deposited and re-arranged.

The following FINANCIAL STATEMENT was presented by the Treasurers :—

Mr. W. Bidgood was re-elected Curator of the Museum, and the additional office of Assistant Secretary was conferred upon him. Mr. W. A. SANFORD and Mr. F. H. DICKINSON expressed the value which the Society placed upon his laborious and intelligent services.

An animated discussion was raised about the place of meeting for next year. Some of the Members were anxious to fix upon Sherborne, and it was hinted that the Society would be welcomed by that town. On the other hand many considered that it would be premature to pass the bounds of the county until the Society had more thoroughly explored its proper sphere of action.

Mr. J. BATTEN remarked that the Society had already, in 1867, left the county by meeting in Bristol.

The Rev. W. HUNT contended that Bristol stood in a very different relation to the county to that which was held by Sherborne, both as regards history and architecture.

Mr. E. A. FREEMAN, D.C.L., said that he thought that the question had been settled last year in favour of Sherborne.

The Rev. Prebendary SCARTH and Rev. H. H. WINWOOD expressed their hope that the Society would not be in any way rendered less distinctly Somersetshire ; and this feeling seemed to meet with very general acceptance.

It was finally agreed, upon the motion of Mr. J. BATTEN, that the place of meeting should be left to the decision of the Committee, with power to fix upon a place beyond the border of the county. But at the same time it was understood that no other place outside the county should be fixed upon for the next year's meeting except Sherborne.

The Revs. I. S. Gale and W. P. Williams, Captain

Doveton, Messrs. Cecil Smith, A. Malet, and H. Alford were elected Members of the Committee.

The PRESIDENT then delivered the following

Inaugural Address.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

IT is with sincere pleasure that I meet the Members of the Somerset Archæological Society in this ancient city of Wells, the ecclesiastical metropolis of our county. It is with no less sincerity that I acknowledge my own insufficiency to discharge the duties of your President as I think they ought to be discharged. I confess to a genuine delight in archæological pursuits: I confess to taking a deep interest in the scientific investigation of facts buried under the dust and rubbish of centuries. I think I could pursue any inquiry into the past for which I had materials at my command, and shout *εὐρηκα*, if the enquiry were successful, in the midst of any civil or ecclesiastical battle that might be going on—for such pursuits form a world of their own, above and independent of the world of politics and polemics,—and so far I will not disclaim some of the qualifications which ought to be found in your President. But when I ask myself whether I have that minute and accurate knowledge of *facts* in the different departments of archæology which enables me to distinguish, to compare, to classify, and to arrange such facts in their due order, and in their proper compartments; when I ask myself whether my memory is charged with a sufficient amount of historical, linguistic, or architectural knowledge to enable me to throw light upon obscure events, or interpret the revelations of obscure monuments and yet obscurer words; when I ask myself whether my eye has been sufficiently trained to read in the various objects of archæological interest what is to be read in them, and thence to infer justly what ought to be inferred from them, I find myself utterly at fault, and have

only to throw myself, as I do without reserve, on your kindness and indulgence.

Moreover since I have been a resident in the county of Somerset I have had no leisure whatever to pursue what used in Suffolk to be my favourite recreation. With the exception of Mr. Freeman's admirable History of Wells Cathedral, a paper or two in your "Proceedings" on the Combes of the district, Mr. Geo. Williams' interesting book on my great predecessor, Bishop Beckington, Mr. Parker's contributions to the topography of Wells, and a very few other works, my archæological reading has fairly come to an end. However without wearying you with further excuses I will do my best to discharge the duties of the office which I have the honour to fill.

I interpret the fact of our meeting at Wells as meaning that you wish to make the study of the Cathedral under Mr. Irvine's auspices, and with the benefit of his great and exact knowledge of all the details of its magnificent structure, the main features of this year's meeting. And certainly to gain an exact knowledge of the biography, if I may so speak, of this grand and beautiful building which must have taxed all the powers of its builders for a couple of centuries, will be an object worthy of the occasion. The progress of a great Cathedral, the mechanical skill and force displayed in it, the features which it has in common with other Cathedrals, English and foreign, and those which are peculiar to itself, the religious sentiments which animated its founders, the religious opinions which find their expression in the broader features of its design, and in the minuter details of ornament and decoration, the illustration given by it of the relative power and authority and wealth of different classes in those days—all these are so much a part of the history of the times, and of the country itself in those times, that an accurate knowledge of the Cathedral is no mean contribution to history itself. And then there are its thousand-and-one lessons in taste,

in beauty, in proportion, in construction, in short in the noble art of ARCHITECTURE, one of the grandest outputs of what there is of creative power in man. But as I have no contribution to make to the history of the Cathedral I will say no more about it.

The Palace will I hope also come in for some share of your attention, and receive some additional illustration from your inspection of it. It is certainly a remarkable specimen of the domestic architecture of the 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th centuries, and presents some good features of each of those times, from Jocelyn down to Bishop Mountague, from Early English to Jacobean. Its moat and wall and gate tower are remarkably perfect, and I hope that our valued friend Mr. Clark, of Dowlais, will throw a little of his magnesian light upon its merits as a fortress and castle. I must only ask you *not* to look at the drawbridge and portcullis, and hasten to acknowledge that they are a great sham, which almost amounts, in the midst of so much that is true and real, to a great shame. But it can't be helped.

The ruins of Bishop Burnell's great banqueting hall, with its beautiful windows and its tragic recollections of good Abbot Whiting's shameful trial and judicial murder, will not escape your notice. The more ancient hall or undercroft of Bishop Jocelyn, whatever was its original purpose, will, I hope, supply something more solid than sights and memories, and at all events will give you a warm welcome. The Chapel I shall show you with regret. Its modern restoration is utterly unworthy of the great beauty of its ancient roof and windows.* But it has not been in my power to do anything to it.

Passing from the buildings of Wells I shall indicate a few points on which my curiosity has been excited, and on which

* This refers exclusively to the mean character of the wood work, and to the stained glass.

I hope it will be allayed by some of our learned friends in the course of the present meeting.

As we are at Wells, both actually and in the progress of my speech, I will mention first in order, as affording matter for interesting inquiry, the relations of the Bishop to the city and its municipality. The city, as you are doubtless aware, owed its first charter to Bishop Robert (1137-1165), and this charter was confirmed and enlarged by his two immediate successors, Reginald and Savaric. It is thought to have been by the influence of their successor, Bishop Jocelyn, that the first Royal Charter was granted by King John in 1202. Here then we have four successive bishops interesting themselves in the freedom and commercial prosperity of the burgesses of Wells, and in so doing they were fulfilling righteously their duty as the LORDS of Wells. It is particularly to their credit that not content with giving a charter of their own, which as Wells was a *villa Episcopi* they were entitled to do, they procured further a Royal Charter, which conferred fuller privileges upon the burgesses. "The Boroughs, Vills, or Communes of the feudal lords, had privileges very inferior to those of the Royal Communes," says Houard, speaking of those in France, and the same was true in England. Besides other advantages they were judged in a number of petty causes by their own laws, ministered by their own chief, in a court of their own. The head of the corporation in the French ville or commune was always under the three races called a *mayor*, but the name does not appear to have been common in England till the time of Richard II. They were called aldermen, seneschals, masters, bailiffs, provosts. The chief officer of the Corporation of Wells before the charter of Elizabeth was called sometimes seneschal, and sometimes master. Such a corporation then was established in Wells by the Bishops their feudal lords, and no doubt they had in so doing the benevolent design so well expressed in Beaumanoir's collection of Rules (1284), where it is said "Every lord who

has villes with communes (or commonalties) under him ought thoroughly to inform himself of the state of each such ville, and how it is governed by its mayor, and by those whose duty it is to protect it and administer its affairs; so that the rich may know that if they do any wrong they will be grievously punished, and that the poor in the said villes may earn their bread in peace." May I observe by the way that it is very pleasant to find such goodly maxims and theories in the midst of all the roughness and oppression of those early centuries, and add one more from Glanville's Preface to the Laws of King David of Scotland, somewhat in the same spirit:—"The King's Majesty must not only be glorious with arms to put down those who rise in rebellion against himself and his kingdoms, but it must be armed with good laws for the peaceable government of the people who are his subjects."

I am afraid the relations between the Bishop and the commonalty of Wells were not always quite so cordial as one could have wished, because the Bishops would interfere and bring matters into their own courts which the burgesses wished to be tried in the city court. But for all that let the four bishops who enfranchised the town have the praise that is their due.

Before quitting the subject of the relations of the Bishops to the corporation I would call attention to the curious circumstance that the names of the municipal officers were not Saxon but French or Norman. The seneschal, the commonalty, the burgesses, as, elsewhere, the provost, and the mayor, were not like the alderman, the reeve, the bedell, the catchpole, &c., of Saxon origin, but must have been importations from abroad. There is also a striking resemblance between many of the early English and Scotch municipal laws and those found in the capitularies by which the French communes were governed.

I have alluded to some differences which arose between the Bishops and the burgesses. I wonder whether the Palace

moat and walls had anything to do with these differences, or what gave rise to so grand and costly a construction. Certainly protected by that broad and deep moat, with those massive walls pierced all round for the marksmen, with the flanking towers, at the several corners commanding all the approaches, and the strong gate tower with its porteullis and *real* drawbridge, the Bishop must have slept in perfect security, and been able to defy all his foes: while his table would be well furnished with ducks and swans and geese for Feast days, and abundance of fish for all Fasts of the church. Others suppose that it was the dread of the infuriated monks of Bath which led Bishop Ralph to fortify the Palace, while others again think it was done with reference merely to the "turbulent spirit" of the times. However, whatever his motive was, it was a work worthy of Ralph of Shrewsbury, to whom it is expressly ascribed in the *Anglia Sacra*, as quoted by Mr. Freeman. "Episcopale palatium apud Welliam forti muro lapideo circumcinxit, et aquam undique circumduxit," and again more exactly "Palatium episcopale Wellense muro lapideo batellato et cornellato cum fossatis claudere fecit."

And this leads me to notice, as a marked feature in the succession of the Bishops of Wells, that almost all our celebrities derived their chief distinction from their great material works. If we seek among them any of the great divines who, either before or after the Reformation, exercised a powerful influence upon the theology of the English Church, or any who for great learning or eloquence or statesmanship stand out as prominent in the history of the country, we shall seek in vain. Wolsey and Laud were far too short a time Bishops of Bath and Wells to be in any way identified with the see; Bishop Still, described by Sir John Harington as a man "to whom he never came but he grew more religious, and from whom he never went but he parted better instructed," and who is described by Fuller as "no less famous for a preacher than a disputant," was an eminently respectable divine; Bishop

Lake described by Fuller as a "living comment upon Saint Paul's character of a Bishop," and who has left behind some valuable sermons very illustrative of the Church discipline of the first quarter of the 17th century, was also an ornament to the see. But Ken is the only one who stands out among the records of the whole Church conspicuous for the episcopal virtues of learning, piety, charity, self-denial, and for his saintly life, and his is the name of which the see has most cause to be proud. All the other great names in our roll, Jocelyn, Burnell, Ralph of Shrewsbury, Bubwith, Beckington, are famous for their magnificent buildings, and have their monuments in different portions of the Cathedral, the Vicar's Close, the Palace, the gates, the market-place, and the almshouses of the city. The truth is that for several centuries this was the main direction which intellectual vigour and piety took in churchmen; and the near relation of architecture to religion in those ages is another very closely related fact. This is not the place nor the opportunity for entering into the philosophy of it. But I may just add that such books as the Chronicle of Jocelyn de Brakland, and the language of many of the ancient charters, seem to show us that the men of those days looked upon the patron saints of cathedrals and churches as the actual proprietors of them. Their faith, or fancy, brought St. Andrew or St. Peter into very close proximity with the buildings named after them, and the lands attached to them. They conceived the Saints as deeply interested in these possessions, and as deriving honour and dignity and pleasure from them, and as punishing all those who robbed or alienated their possessions. Hence their own reverence for the Saints, an important part of medieval religion, led them to beautify, to adorn, to enrich, to increase, to protect, the buildings and the lands belonging to them. I conceive that it was this spirit which first gave the impetus to ecclesiastical building, though doubtless the passion for building lasted long after the spirit which gave it birth had ceased to live.

To pass on to one or two other matters of archæological interest. It would be, I think, a considerable gain if our Society could prepare and publish two or three maps of Somerset showing the state of the country at different times with respect to the Roman occupation, roads, mines, towns, the sea-border, islands, &c. ; with regard to the boundaries of Britons, and Saxons later, with the names of places, rivers, mountain ranges, &c., and the extent of the great forests of Selwood, Mendip, North Petherton, Neroche, and Exmoor. A good list too of all the places mentioned in ancient records, with the modern name added, would be of considerable use.

A good collection might also be made of all the names of hills, rivers, and places, classified as Celtic, Saxon, or otherwise, with the probable etymology of each, and above all a comparison with identical or nearly identical names in other parts of England or of the continent. For instance we have several places in the county, including the county town of Ilchester (Ivel-chester, or Givel-chester), compounded with the Il, or Ivel, or Givel (for the name is written in all three ways); and the Ile, which gives their name to Ilminster, Ile Brewers, Ile Abbots, Ilton, and Ilford, is doubtless only a variation of the same word. Both run into the Perrott. I strongly suspect too that Yeovil is merely a corruption of Givel or Gifle, or Gyfle, as the name of the river is written in a charter of Alfred, and in a will about 100 years later. Well, in Bedfordshire there is a river Ivell, and on, or close to it, are two towns anciently called Nortgivell and Sudgivell, and in the 15th century North and South Yevill (compare Yeovil), or Yevele, now corrupted to Northill and Southill. It is obvious that these are the same words. Slightly varied forms of the same name occur in Yorkshire—Ghividale, North Geveldale, Gevedale, &c. There is also in Sweden a river Gefle, and a town of the same name. Somersetshire is also rich in local prefixes and terminations, as *pen*, *tor*, *pill*, *lynch*, *port*, *ea*, *creech*, *cot* (Dulcot, Draycot, Foxcot), *over* (Northover, South-

over, *combe*, &c., the thorough elucidation of which could not fail to throw light both upon the language and history of the early settlers. I believe much has been done lately by the judicious use of such materials by Celtic scholars* to restore the early history of the Picts and Scots. The truth is that the names of places, and especially of rivers and hills, are the most faithful memorials of ancient races. When all other monuments have perished, these survive, and like the fossilized print of the foot of the batrachian, or of the drops of rain on some ancient sea-shore, hand down to us through a succession of centuries, the remembrance of some long-forgotten fact. If handled discreetly and with discrimination I consider that proper names are among the most precious records we possess.

We have however in our county, owing doubtless to its peculiar conformation, other very early monuments of ancient and perhaps extinct races. The splendid camps which crown many of our hills, as Cadbury, Maesbury, and very many more, the hut circles on Ben Knoll, the stones of Stanton Drew, &c., are doubtless coeval with some of the tribes whose speech is preserved in proper names; and I do not see why some progress should not be made, with the help of a wide and accurate comparative archæology, in sorting together the names and things which are coeval, and even in obtaining some knowledge of the history of the people.

Two or three peculiarities in Somersetshire have struck me which I will just mention without dwelling upon them. One is the want of a capital. Somerton and Ilchester, two of the oldest towns in the county, neither of them represent any great vigour in forming central tribal communities. Another is the absence of any large territorial lords making their residence in the county and signaling it by extensive castles and domains. Montacute and Brimpton are very fine Tudor houses; but except that most beautiful of all residences,

* Dr. Skeene, Dr. Stuart, Dr. Reeves, &c. *Quarterly Review*, July, 1873.

Dunster Castle, I cannot think of any very ancient baronial residence. There are still, I fancy, an unusual number of small properties, and of independent yeomen. One more peculiarity is the number of parishes with double names, the latter name indicating the family which held the manor. Shepton Mallet, Shepton Montague, and Shepton Beauchamp, Curry Rivel, Combe Florey, Withiel Florey, Orchard Portman, &c., are instances of what I mean. It seems at first sight a habit inconsistent with the other tendency I noted of maintaining small and independent holdings.

I have sometimes thought that a pleasant way of illustrating county family history would be a collection of well-written tales in the style of the historical novel, which should bring together members of families actually flourishing together at the epoch chosen, which should describe the state of the country at the time, and make use of historical events—Perkin Warbeck's claim to the Crown, Henry VII.'s visit to Wells, the intrusion of the puritan Burgess into the "late cathedral," or, to come down later, the incidents of Monmouth's rebellion, and Ken's pious visits to the poor prisoners at Wells. A powerful pen, like that which gave us *Lorna Doone*, might pitch on many a scene among the Mendips or Quantocks worthy of being described, and people them with suitable heroes and heroines; or the venerable precincts of Glastonbury might be made alive again with monks and mitred abbots, who should play their part in some drama of fictitious life; or a Dickens might draw out the peculiar features of the mining population, or the turf-cutters in the bog. There is abundance of varied material. Or our novelist might go back to the days of Arthur, or those of Alfred, and dress up some of the dry lessons of archæology with the pleasant sauce of an ingenious fancy, and a lively imagination.

But I have a more serious suggestion to make in conclusion. I believe there are in the possession of the Dean and Chapter,

and also under the custody of the Registrar of the Diocese, some most valuable MSS. which would throw a flood of light upon the history of Wells and of the whole county. They are taken such care of now that nobody ever sees them or is a bit the wiser for them. I have little doubt that the Dean and Chapter would give every facility for the publication of such extracts from those in their possession as would be important for historical purposes. I would do the same for those in my Registry. It would be a worthy labour for our Society to assist in giving them to the archæological world. For a true reflection of the mind and sentiments of a certain age, and a faithful picture of the events and circumstances of the times, nothing can compare with original documents. Get the permission of the Chapter, get a competent person to make the selection, raise a guarantee fund for the expense, procure a competent editor, and the thing is done.

And now, ladies and gentlemen, apologising for having detained you so long, I invite you to come to the Chapter House, and to examine for yourselves the exquisite beauty of the Cathedral Church of St. Andrew in Wells.

Col. PINNEY proposed and Mr. E. A. FREEMAN seconded a vote of thanks to the President, for his Lordship's able and interesting address. Carried with much applause.

The Society then adjourned to the Chapter House of the Cathedral, which had been kindly opened to them by the Very Rev. the Dean and the Chapter. There Mr. Irvine gave a most striking lecture on the "Architectural History of the Cathedral," which will be found in Part II. This lecture formed the principal feature of the meeting, and was illustrated by numerous plain and carefully prepared diagrams drawn to scale; the most important of these are by the kindness of the lecturer published in the present volume. The paper had scarcely ended when the hour of Evensong came. At the close of the service,

which was largely attended by the Members of the Society, Mr. Irvine conducted a considerable crowd from point to point of the buildings, and illustrated his paper by the very stones themselves.

A large number of ladies and gentlemen dined together at the Swan Hotel, under the presidency of the Bishop. After dinner the High Sheriff, Mr. R. K. MEADE KING, proposed the health of the President. The Bishop returned thanks and proposed the health of Mr. Irvine, and, both as the Bishop of the Diocese and the President of the Society, thanked him for the lucid and interesting history which he had given of the mother Church of St. Andrew. Other toasts were also given.

At half-past seven an

Evening Meeting

was held in the Town Hall.

Mr. E. A. FREEMAN was first called upon to speak, and pointed out, in a speech of great clearness and eloquence,

The Special Position of Wells in contrast with other Boroughs.

He said that the cities and towns of England might be divided into three distinct classes according to the different elements which were strongest in them and decided their character at their birth; these elements were ecclesiastical, civil, or military. Wells was a purely ecclesiastical city, not simply because the Bishop of the Diocese had his seat there, but because of the position in which the city had always stood to him. There were some cathedral cities which were far from having had an ecclesiastical origin. Exeter and Wells would be found to stand in striking con-

trast. I have been, he said, lately to Exeter for the meeting of the Archæological Institute, and the difference is therefore specially in my mind. It is not merely that Exeter is bigger than Wells, but that they belong to entirely different classes of cities. Exeter is perhaps the most prominent example in England of a city which began as an early fortress, then became a Roman city, then an English city and so on to our own day. But the city of Exeter existed for ages before the Bishop, and the Bishop came in at a comparatively late time. Now in Wells the Bishop did not find himself a place within the walls of a city, because before he came there was no city : a church had been founded ; the see of the Bishop was placed in that church, ecclesiastical foundations grew up round it, and people came and dwelt under the shadow of the Church of St. Andrew. Mr. Freeman also marked out more fully the divisions of towns, showing that while some like Exeter grew out of præ-Roman fortresses, others were of Roman origin, while others like Reading were purely Teutonic settlements or *marks*, the dwelling place of a clan which had grown into a town, and whose origin is often marked by the gentile ending *ing*. A third class has arisen not only since the English, but in some cases even since the Norman Conquest. To this class belong the military posts of which Taunton in the south, and Pontefract and Richmond and some other such places in the north of England are striking examples. To another class belong the rare instances of commercial towns which have arisen at once at the bidding of a king, such as Kingston-upon-Hull. To a fifth class belong the towns which have a purely ecclesiastical origin such as our own city of Wells. One class of these takes in towns which owe their existence to some abbey. In many such cases a man went

and set up a hermitage in order to retire from the world, and the very opposite came about to that which he had looked for. The hermitage grew to be a monastery, and around the monastery grew a town. To this class belong Bury St. Edmunds, Crowland, and Evesham. A smaller class of towns, like Wells, owe their existence to being the seat not of an abbot but of a bishop. Wells, as I have often said, is a purely secular foundation. There never was a monk here by any chance; our church has always been from its very beginning a foundation of secular priests. This is the great reason why Wells is the very best example to be found in the whole world of a secular church with its subordinate buildings; there is no other place where you can see so many of the ancient buildings still standing and still put to their own use. Mr. Freeman described the city as seen from the east, from the Shepton Mallet road, where the best and most beautiful view is had of the Cathedral Church, with the lovely and unique group of the Chapter House, the Cloisters, the Palace, the gate and other buildings. He also spoke of the fine parish Church of St. Cuthbert. He went on to speak in terms of warm admiration of the paper which Mr. Irvine had read. He said that he and Mr. Parker had first been led by their own inquiries to think that the west front was older than the nave; then they dutifully followed Professor Willis in holding that the west front was later than the nave; but that Mr. Irvine had that day shown that the Professor was mistaken, and that he and Mr. Parker had better have followed their own ideas than have bowed to his superior authority. But I cannot, he said, speak without mourning of the buildings of the city, for they are perishing, and no one seems to care about them. Where is the Prebendal House in North Liberty? Where is the Organist's House?

Who pulled it down? Will any one stand up and say boldly why it was pulled down? Then the only living record of the special history of the city for ages has been rubbed out by pulling down the middle wall of partition which had stood between the close and the city. Pull down the houses by all means, if you like, so that the wall may be seen—no one would have grudged them; but a foolish hole has been made in the middle of the wall for no purpose save that, when you go out of the west door of the Cathedral you may have a view of the Swan Hotel. Mr. Freeman also spoke of smaller acts of wanton destruction, of a good doorway and window destroyed in a tavern called the City Arms, of a freestone label cut away from a house in Chamberlain Street in order that something spick and span might be put in its place. He was in the habit of speaking his mind on such matters, and cared not what anyone felt about it. He only wished to see the people who did such things; but they kept themselves in the dark. He had pointed out what there was once in the city and what there was not—what there was a little time ago, and what there ought to be now.

Mr. Freeman's speech was received with great applause.

The Rev. Prebendary SCARTH then read a paper "On an Inscription" lately found at Sea Mills, near Bristol. He considered that the word SPES was a Christian name, and that the inscription was not, as had been supposed, in any way connected with the worship of Mithras.

A short abstract of this paper has been kindly made by Mr. Scarth, and is printed in Part II.

Mr. J. H. PARKER, C.B., agreed in considering that the inscription belonged to a Christian tombstone.

The Rev. Prebendary EARLE thought that there was no ground for believing that "Spes" was a Christian

name. It appeared to him to express a religious sentiment; and that, as in Old Testament history, they had Ebenezer, the Stone of Help; so this was the Stone of Hope.

The Rev. GEORGE WILLIAMS next read extracts which he had translated from a curious Latin MS., "On the rival merits of Bath and Wells." He said, by way of introduction, that some who were present might remember that when the Society last met at Wells he read an account given by Chandler, who was Chancellor of Wells in the middle of the fifteenth century, of the state of the city and of its ecclesiastical establishment at that time. He had since edited the Life of Bishop Beckington for the Master of the Rolls. In doing this he was led to examine a document in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge, which had been placed there by a former master of Trinity named Neville, who was also Dean of Canterbury. In this MS. he found a discussion between S.S. Peter and Andrew on which of their respective cities was the more worthy to be the seat of the Bishop.*

The MS. has been edited by the Rev. G. Williams and is printed in Part II.

Mr. F. H. DICKINSON said that he had intended to speak on the subject of the Canons' Stalls, but felt that it was impossible to do so at that late hour. He would, however, mention that he had in his hand a paper sent him by Canon Bernard. It was a summary made by M. Dubos, the able keeper of archives of the department La Manche, of some papers of the 13th century relating to some property in Normandy which belonged to the prior

* The volume from which the Rev. G. Williams extracted this discussion was kindly exhibited by him in the Local Museum; it contained a beautiful portrait of Bishop Beckington.

and canons of the monastery of Bruton.* He would like to say something in addition to what Mr. Freeman in his somewhat fiery speech had said concerning Mr. Irvine and his paper. He hoped that the plans which Mr. Irvine had used would be printed in the volume of Proceedings, as well as his remarks. This would no doubt be expensive, but the Society would, he thought, cheerfully make some sacrifice to procure the clear and able explanation which they had heard.

The HON. SECRETARY then stated that he had received a paper from Mr. H. B. Woodward, F.G.S., giving an account of the geology of the district, and that he had handed the same to Mr. Sanford, as it was something especially in his line, but that he feared that there would scarcely be time to read the whole.

Mr. SANFORD regretted that there was not time to read the paper throughout, but gave an epitome of it, and proposed that it should be taken as read.

Mr. G. T. CLARK, in reference to the summary just given, spoke of an axis of elevation, raising the coal measures, extending from Swansea, which passed obliquely under the Severn, and near to the cities of Bristol and Bath, which was called the Wick Rocks.

The Rev. H. H. WINWOOD questioned the accuracy of the summary which Mr. Sanford had given of Mr. Woodward's paper, and asserted that its whole tenor was contrary to what Mr. Woodward had formerly published.

Mr. SANFORD considered that he had accurately represented the contents of the paper.

The HON. SECRETARY said that Mr. Woodward had kindly given his paper to the Society, and that he would

* See Part II.

take care that it should be printed in full so that all might be satisfied concerning the writer's opinions.

Mr. HUNT then announced the programme for the next day, and the meeting broke up.

A great number then went to the Cathedral, the interior of which was most successfully lighted with lime light by the kindness of Mr. Newnham.

Excursion : Wednesday.

The weather was most discouraging to those who were intending to join the excursion, but nevertheless a large number followed in the wake of the President, who started at 10 a.m. The course taken was up the steep old Bristol road to the west of Stoberry Park. Pen Hill, nearly a thousand feet high, was passed to the right, and the road led the excursionists over a wild and desolate track of country, which had at different times been tried for ore. This makes it very difficult to decide on the nature of the many small round holes which almost fill the surface, but nevertheless some remarkable groups of barrows could be distinctly made out. The first halt was made at the Castle of Comfort, a small public-house. Near this is a curious depression about 80 feet deep, known as the Devil's punchbowl, there are also several swallet holes, and to the south-east two curious groups of barrows. Some of these barrows have been opened ; and an account of their contents is given in *Rutter's Delineations*, Appendix E. The party with some difficulty made out the course of the Roman road (*Iter ad Axium*), which runs from Uphill to Old Sarum, and which line crosses the more

modern road. The heavy rain made every one loathe to stay long enough to make a full exploration of the many points of interest at this wild spot. After a drive of some nine miles, during the latter part of which the weather became more favourable, the excursionists reached

Compton Martin Church.

The Vicar and his Curate were both unavoidably absent, but nevertheless the Society was most hospitably received and entertained at the vicarage. The church, which is dedicated to St. Michael, consists of a chancel, nave, side aisles, and a western tower in which six bells are hung.

Mr. FREEMAN having been requested to comment on the architecture of the church, spoke first from the chancel. He said that he thus broke the good rule of examining the outside of a church before going inside, because in this instance it was more easy to see from the inside how the building was constructed, and what changes it had undergone. He remarked on the changes which had taken place since he was last in the church about twenty years ago. It was a very late Norman church, as late as anything purely Norman could be, quite late 12th century work, though of course he did not say that there might not have been something much earlier there once. There was no sign of an apse; indeed in small churches an apse was somewhat uncommon in England, though the rule in Normandy. The building was of a very high rank in its own class. It was rare to find a clerestory in a church of that size and date. There were examples in St. Peter's at Northampton, in St. Woollos at Newport, and here and there, but as a rule there was only a clerestory in Norman churches of a larger size. There was vaulting, which was rare in English parish churches of

any date, but less rare in those of the 12th century than of any other time. The pillars were not exactly columnar, nor yet very massive piers, but something between the two; they might have been treated as columns, but they were treated like the massive piers with a round abacus. On the north side there had been a good deal of tampering. He first drew attention to a singular twisted pillar on that side. This pillar was not really twisted, and any one of the other pillars could be cut into a like shape. The form at once suggested the pillars of Waltham, Durham, Dunfermline, and Lindisfarn. As for the original east window he knew not what it was, but he remembered that there was a Perpendicular window there twenty-two years ago, and he should have kept that rather than a Norman window of the 19th century. But the most noteworthy changes in the church were made in the 15th century, when the local Perpendicular style had come in. Of course there had been once a wide Norman chancel-arch of several orders. But the people who had widened the south aisle had taken down the chancel-arch; they had taken down and to some extent rebuilt one of the Norman ribs, and had cut away the piers of the old arch. They had respected the vaulting and had made their new chancel-arch so as not to interfere with it. The old chancel-arch was doubtless not so wide as the present one; but it was wide for a Norman chancel-arch; it must have been like the one at Iffley. The several orders which the Norman arch would have made it narrower than the present arch. The old screen which he remembered at his former visit was now taken away.

Mr. J. T. IRVINE agreed in considering that the old arch was a wide one, but did not think that it was of more than two orders. He believed that the Norman builder

added a chantry chapel, and that that accounted for the decoration of the pier.

The Rev. W. HUNT expressed a hope, in which Mr. Freeman and Mr. Irvine agreed, that, in any contemplated restoration of the church, the Norman vaulting, the structural peculiarities, the twisted pillar, and the local roof would be carefully preserved.

The PRESIDENT authorized and requested the Secretary to represent to the Incumbent the unanimous opinion of the Society, that nothing should be done to interfere with the arch, and that there was no danger from the pillar being out of the perpendicular.

Mr. T. SEREL read a short memoir of St. Wulfric,* who was born in the parish in the early part of the 12th century. The saint was said to have prophesied the accession of King Stephen. He lived in a cell at Haselborough, and was there buried by Robert, Bishop of Bath and Wells.

Mr. FREEMAN, from the churchyard, pointed out the Norman windows, with mouldings advanced some way towards the next style; also a piece of stone cornice at the extreme east end of the nave roof. He showed that the tower was an inferior example of one of the familiar county types, as at St. James', Taunton, and Bishops Lydeard, having the staircase-turret in much the same way. Instead of the proper group of belfry turret windows, there was only one window with a flat arch, and very poor tracery. The great number of the small and rather weak shafts stuck against the wall reminded him of Long Sutton, but the tower there was much finer. He also

* A long account of this saint and hermit is given by Roger of Wendover, sub. ann. 1154: also a short and somewhat grotesque notice by Gervase, sub. ann. 1146.

pointed out the pierced parapet which marked the northern side of the Mendips.

The Excursionists next walked down a very long by-lane to

Bykefold Manor.

Mr. PARKER, C.B., remarked, when the Excursionists had got there, that there was really not much to see. All that remained was a pretty, but not in any way a remarkable moated house of the 15th century, with kitchen, offices, and guest chambers. The entrance porch which once was in the middle of the house was now at one end of it; the hall and the principal apartments had been destroyed. It was hardly earlier than Henry VII, but the family of Roynon lived there in the reign of Henry VIII. The square-headed windows, with cinquefoil lights, were such as belonged to the 15th century. There was good wooden panelling of the time of James I.

On their return the visitors were kindly provided with refreshment at the Vicarage. They then went on to

West Harptree.

On entering the church Mr. FREEMAN remarked on the great changes which had been made since his last visit. He would not say much about these changes because the architect, Mr. Giles, was his friend, and because he felt sure that some strong pressure must have been brought to bear upon him before he made them; for Mr. Giles, unlike many fashionable architects, could, and would, if he was allowed, do really good English work. By the help of his old drawings he could tell the Society that there used to be fragments of the old Norman Church. There was once a Norman chancel-arch, which perhaps had a little arch on either side—he could not say for certain, but from the

great width he thought it likely. It was possible that the architect found signs of there having been once a great central arch with a little one each side, and that made him follow the same arrangement. The Norman work was altered in the 15th century or thereabouts. No doubt the change made at that time produced a queer and disproportioned effect. Nevertheless the 15th century change was a piece of the history of the building, and he would have kept it ; and—as for looks—a freak of the 15th century was as likely to be at least as good as a freak of the 19th century. There were formerly two Perpendicular windows in the northern wall—a large one, and another not quite so large. Why should anyone have destroyed them to fall back on the imperfect transitional form which the architect had chosen to follow? The tower remained untouched, the windows were early, and he was glad to see the wooden spire still left, for in these days it was the fashion to get rid of wooden spires, as of other early and characteristic features. The east window had not been meddled with, and the depth of the moulding was worthy of notice. The north transept had been added.

The Rev. W. HUNT called attention to a good piscina, and also to a gold chalice on the altar of Elizabethan work.

Gournay Court,

which stands opposite the church, was next visited. It is a large and handsome house of the time of James I. Mr. Parker pointed out that it had remained almost unaltered, and that the original fireplace and staircase were still there. The outside of the house was, he said, very good. On the caps of the two pillars of the outer door jamb are the words “ Altogether vanity.” At the time of Domesday the manor of West Harptree Gournay belonged to

Geoffrey Bishop of Coutances. It was annexed to the Duchy of Cornwall by Edward III. West Harptree was however afterwards granted to the Gournays, but on the failure of that family in the 15th century it reverted to the Duchy.

Tilly Manor

stands next to the church. The manor was held by the family of Tilly in the time of Richard I. Its various occupants are mentioned in *Rutter's Delineations*, p. 194.

Mr. PARKER, C.B., said that the inscription over the fireplace, 1659, gave the date of the present building. There used to be three stories, but the highest had been removed. It was rare to find so good a house of that date.

East Harptree

was next visited. The church is poor, but with a Norman door. It contains a fine tomb of Sir John Newton, kt., ob. 1568.

The VICAR stated that the church had suffered much hurt at the hands of an iconoclastic predecessor of his, who had destroyed the altar and font and had broken the windows. He said that there were five bells, two of which were of the earlier part of the 17th century, and one much earlier, with the inscription *Jesus Nazarenius Rex*. He asked for an explanation of the name of the parish.

The Rev. W. H. JONES (of Bradford-on-Avon) thought that the *tree* was only a name for the cross.

The Rev. Prebendary EARLE said that he had never met with an instance where *tree* was so used. He was inclined to believe that *tree* simply meant a tree. In old times trees as well as stones formed landmarks and boundaries, and he referred to the well-known "hoar apple tree" of Senlac.

The Rev. W. H. JONES said that in the Charters the *tree* was spelt *trew*.

The Rev. Prebendary EARLE said that the oldest form of *tree*, which he knew of, was *treow*.

Mr. G. T. CLARK remarked that there was an important *tree* which sometimes gave its name to places : he could not in compliment to the inhabitants suppose that that *tree* gave its name to East Harptree, for it was the *gallowstree*.

About half a mile from the church is the picturesque site of Richmond Castle. Nearly every trace of the old building has disappeared, and the site was therefore left unvisited. In the *Gesta Stephani* there is an account of the surprise of Harptree by Stephen.

On the road between East Harptree and Litton some of the party examined a quarry of old red sandstone on Mr. C. Kemble's model farm, in which many of the stones bear evident marks of volcanic action. Passing Litton on the left hand the Society proceeded to

Chewton Mendip.

The beautiful church of this village stands on a commanding spot. It has during the last few years undergone extensive restoration under the superintendence of the Vicar, the Rev. R. S. Philpott.

By the request of the PRESIDENT the Vicar commented on the most remarkable features of the church. He said—

“The church is presumably dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene. The plan, with the exception of the tower, and probably the porch, is Norman. Norman work will be found in all the walls in one form or another externally. Internally, attention may be given to the following features :—Nave : the arcade is of the first and second

Pointed styles ; that portion which belongs to the first Pointed style includes the two easternmost piers, with the respond abutting on the south chancel wall, and the half-pier, No. 3, westward. This portion of the work is built on Norman bases ; the remainder of the arcade is 14th century work. The arrangement of the chancel arch is peculiar, and similar, I think, to that of Portbury ; originally a Norman triplet, and adapted, probably in the 15th century, for the advanced ritual of that day, by sacrificing the low, narrow, central Norman arch, and introducing in its stead a tall, wide, ungraceful opening, splayed into the south chancel wall, and such as you see now. Another feature of interest is the graduated recess observable in proximity to the rood stair. At the north-east angle of the nave there is the jamb of a Norman window, and some remains of the head of another, between the small 14th century window, over the rood stair, and its 15th century neighbour. Some remains of a decorative design of post-Reformation date may be distinguished at the springer of the chancel arch on the south side. The woodwork of the seats is to some extent old, and a fair example of 15th century work. The lectern is about the same date as the Bible which rests upon it ; they have both been used together, probably almost uninterruptedly. There is a MS. note in the inside of the title page of the Bible (which is the original authorised edition, published in 1611) to this effect :—" Chewton : Emmanuel. Memorandum, Primum Tempus : 1611, Oct. 27th. Autho. Eaglesfield, Vicker. John Stanfield, Curatt. John Jones, George Wyatt, Ch. Wardens. J: Jerobubom, Sexton." The altar is of the same date as the lectern. There were massive oak rails and gate, fixed as a septum before the altar, and a pulpit, all of Jacobean work. These were

(I think ill-advisedly) removed during the late repair of the church. There is a good example of the frith, or fridstool, on the north side of the sacrarium. Our universal architectural guide, Mr. Parker's Glossary, tells us "This was a seat or chair, generally of stone, placed near the altar in some churches, the last and most sacred refuge for those who claimed the privilege of sanctuary within them, and for the violation of which the most severe punishment was decreed." Mr. Parker only mentions two examples, one at Hexham, one at Beverley Minster; and both in the north side of the chancel. There are three piscinæ, or aumbries. Bloxam mentions that there are two in this church. The third, however (the middle one), was discovered during the late repairs. It is of the same date as that to the west of it, 15th century. The easternmost is doubtless the original one in use in this church. It is of 13th century date. The other piscinæ were introduced, no doubt, coterminously with the sedilia. At that time this church and advowson, passing from the hands of the Benedictines of Jumiéges, to those of the Carthusians, of Shene, in Surrey, a vast amount of new and costly work was carried out in this church. You will notice, how, in adapting the sedilia to their place, the beautiful respond of the 13th century arcade was ruthlessly sacrificed. There are a curious upright joint and cill in the wall over the piscinæ; the corresponding joint may be traced on examining the rear wall in the Chantry Chapel. There was evidently a door, or window, at that point. In the Chantry Chapel the jambs of the Norman windows are visible in the east wall. The same indications would be found underneath the plaster, and in the same position with respect to the east window, in the chancel.—The Effigies in the Chantry Chapel: The tomb, with its super-

recumbent figures, is popularly known as "The Bonville Monument." The Strachey MSS., page 11, says, 'both Lord Bonville and his lady are interred in the chancel.' Now the architecture of the tomb certainly accords with the date of the deaths of William, Lord Bonville, son of Sir William Bonville, of Chute, in Devonshire, viz., 1461. William, Lord Bonville, inherited the Manor of Chewton from his mother, Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Sir Henry Fitzroger (*vide* Strachey MSS., page 11). The dress and armorial bearings show that the effigies are not those of Lord Bonville, or members of his family on the male side. The arms of the Bonvilles are bends and mulets; those on the jupon of the male figure are three lions rampant, two and one. On the camail there is a small shield charged with the cross of St. George. These insignia seem to identify the effigies as those of Sir Henry Fitzroger and Dame Elizabeth, his wife. In the Inquisitions there is the following:—'Henricus Fitzroger pro ordine fratrum sanctæ crucis juxta turrin London' Chewton Maner, 3 acr' terr,' &c., Somerset.' This explains the cross on the small shield. In Berry's Dictionary of Heraldry there is found among the Fitzrogers one who bore for his arms 'gules, three lions rampant or.' (There is no colour now visible on the shield of the effigy in this church). This Fitzroger died in 1350. In 1388 his wife died. The inquisition taken at the time of his death runs—'Elizabeth uxor Henrici Fitzroger militis Chewton Maner et hund,' Somerset.' The dress of the two figures accords with the date of the death of the female, 1388. Probably these effigies were sculptured in the dress of the period at which the survivor of the persons represented deceased, and placed on a tomb in the style of architecture of the day, by their grandson, William, Lord Bonville.

This would account for the incongruity between the tomb and its effigies. The Tower.—Mr. Eddrup, Chancellor of Salisbury, opines that the tower is of two dates, separated by at least 100 years. I have ascended the face of the tower, and observed the inferiority of the sculpture and other details of the uppermost stage, as compared with the lower stages. Mr. Eddrup is inclined to think that the ground and middle stages are work of the same date as the other 15th century features of the church, and that the uppermost stage was added in the next century. I owe to the courtesy of Mr. Serel an excerpt from the will of Thomas Halston de Chewton, made March 13th, 1541, and proved in the same year. It is to this effect—‘I bequeath to the bylding of the tower of Chewton, xvid. (sixteen pence). Item. To Saynt Andrews in Welleys vid. (sixpence).’ ”

Mr. FREEMAN, from the churchyard, pointed out the difference in outline, caused by the change which had taken place in the walls and roof of the nave. He said that when architects began to build Perpendicular towers, in the case of the smaller churches of the county, they often, as at Wrington, pulled down the old nave and had to make a new nave between the old chancel and the new tower. Here the tower had been built on to the nave, and was one of the finest examples they had of its own type. It was not the type which pleased him best.* He liked best the small class of towers, of which Wrington was the finest example, in which there was the greatest continuity. Here the lines did not run completely through as at Wrington, for there was a stage with two windows, and another with two windows over it. Still this was a much better

* See Mr. Freeman's paper on the Perpendicular of Somerset, Vol. II of the Society's Proceedings, p. 53, 1851.

and finer piece of work than the taller and more famous tower of St. Mary's at Taunton. There was not indeed perfect continuity, but there was a gradual increase of lightness and decoration towards the top, which the Taunton tower lacked. Here they had the plain lower part, then the blank panel-stage, and then the rich belfry-stage, crowned by a parapet, which had a slightly top-heavy effect. On the whole it was one of the best towers they had, and a most stately thing.

A large number of the Society took tea at the vicarage, and then drove back to Wells.

The Evening Meeting

was held in the Town-hall, the President taking the chair at about 8.30 p.m.

Dr. BEDDOE, of Clifton, read a paper "On the Ethnology of Somerset," which is printed in Part II.

Mr. F. H. DICKINSON said that Dr. Beddoe seemed to assume that the country about Taunton and Ilminster was but thinly populated before and at the time of the Norman Conquest, and that it was therefore less affected by it than were other and more thickly-inhabited parts. He doubted that strongly. Ilminster and Taunton were, he believed, at that time full of people, and the country was highly civilized.

Mr. FREEMAN thanked Dr. Beddoe for his paper. It was a great gain when two people came to the same conclusion by two different modes of argument. All that Dr. Beddoe had said, mainly from a different point of view to his own, came to much the same conclusion as

that to which he had been coming for some years. Any talk about "purity of race," "extermination," and so on must, in the very nature of things, be taken with very considerable modifications. There was no such thing as strict purity of race, it was impossible. All he claimed for the English was, that they were as strictly a Teutonic people as the Germans were. In Germany the Slavonic element was probably stronger than the Celtic element was in England. But in both cases the foreign element was so absorbed and assimilated by the larger Teutonic element that, while the inquiry into the difference still retained all its interest, as far as physical science was concerned, as an historical matter, it made no difference at all. Utter extermination could only take place in the case of savages. It was impossible, in any strict sense, to exterminate any people which had reached that state of civilization which existed in every province of the Roman Empire. It had been lately said that there was no evidence that there was ever an Englishman and a Welshman living side by side here or in Devonshire. A man could not say such a thing, if he had given a single thought to the matter, for he would have seen his mistake in the laws of King Ine. He wished he could make out how and when the English came into Devonshire. He thought it was just possible that they did not come our way at all—that they went, as he might say, not by the "Bristol and Exeter," but by the "South Western." If that was true it would get rid of many difficulties.

The Rev. E. L. BARNWELL (Melksham) said that in Wiltshire they had the strong substantial Saxon and the little black-eyed Celt living side by side, that he believed the two races were still virtually distinct, though of course there had been some mixture.

Mr. W. A. SANFORD said that Professor Huxley had suggested, that in a large part of the south of England traces might be found of the Basque or Iberian race. He wished to know whether Dr. Beddoe had ever found characteristics which he thought might belong to that race.

The BISHOP asked if Dr. Beddoe could tell the Society anything about a race earlier than the Celts.

Dr. BEDDOE said that Mr. Dickinson must have misunderstood him about the state of the population round Ilminster and Taunton, as he agreed with him in thinking that the country there was pretty well populated at the time of the Conquest, but he did not believe that the population was much disturbed. The President and Mr. Sanford had raised a very important question, and he was sorry that the want of time would prevent its being properly discussed. The question was, whether the Celts were anything like an homogeneous race : whether they did not include at least two strata ; the upper one consisting of a large, high-cheek-boned, stalwart people, probably with light complexions, who would be the true Celts ; the other consisting of a lower and servile race—the Iberian or Ligurian—small, with dark eyes and dark hair. It was a point which, it seemed as yet, was impossible to determine. He did not altogether agree with Professor Huxley ; he had some doubts on the subject, but he saw reason to believe that the Celts were not strictly homogeneous.

The Rev. Preb. EARLE said that there was one point of which no notice had been taken, it was, that after the withdrawal of the Roman legions, a great collapse of the population had taken place. He believed that the Saxons flowed into the country as into a vacuum, that when the legions left the island the whole status of the people col-

lapsed, and he very much doubted whether, when the Saxons came in, they found any British freemen at all in a great part of the country. In reference to what Mr. Freeman had said about the laws of King Ine, he said that the great drawback to their value as evidence that the Saxons and Britons lived side by side was, that they did not know to what district these laws applied, and that therefore he considered that they could not be used, as Mr. Freeman thought, to prove that the two races lived on together.

The next paper was "On the Statues of the West Front of the Cathedral," by Mr. B. Ferrey, F.S.A., the diocesan architect, and was read by his son, Mr. E. Ferrey. It was illustrated by a beautiful and complete set of photographs, which drew forth great admiration. The paper is printed, with a diagram kindly furnished by Mr. Ferrey, in Part II of this volume.

The Rev. W. HUNT then handed in an interesting account of some "Excavations lately made at Muchelney Abbey," which had been sent to him by the Rev. S. Baker, Vicar of Muchelney. Owing to the lateness of the hour this paper was not read, but is printed in Part II. He then announced the programme for the next day, and the meeting was declared closed by the President.

Excursion : Thursday.

The Society met at St. Cuthbert's Church. Mr. Freeman described the architecture of the building, and Mr. Serel gave some notices illustrative of its history. A full description of the architecture by Mr. B. Ferrey will be found in Vol. II, and by Mr. Freeman in Vol. XII

of the Society's Proceedings. A few years ago a reredos was set up in the church by the Freemasons of the county. In reference to this Mr. Freeman said that the sculpture might be pretty, but that the architectural details were simply of no style at all.

From the church the company went to Bishop Bubwith's almshouse, which was described by Mr. Parker. A notice of this building may be found in Mr. Parker's paper on the Ecclesiastical Buildings of Wells, with some illustrative notes by Mr. Serel, published in Vol. XII of the Proceedings. Mr. Parker again took occasion to mourn over the way in which this building had been injured in the present generation by changes inside, through which it had lost nearly all its original character.

Part of the company then visited the house in the Vicars' Close which has been restored by its present owner, Mr. Parker, the rest went to

The Canons' Barn.

Mr. IRVINE first called attention to this building, but, by some mistake, he unfortunately was not present when the Society visited it.

It was stated that Bishop Joscelyn in his charter notices the Barn not as a gift of his own, but as already part of the possessions of the church. In a charter by Bishop Roger, the Barn is again noticed in a long schedule of the possessions of the Wells Chapter. The charter states that the Barn was given Bishop Reginald Fitz Joscelyn (1174-1191) for commons, and that it was to be held free from all rents and services. This Barn has for centuries been held of the Chapter by the lessees of the great tithes of the parish of St. Cuthbert's, as their Tithe Barn. A great part of the building is of comparatively

modern date : the old part is within and cannot be seen from the outside.

Some doubt was raised as to whether the old part should not be considered Norman work, but, after a most careful examination, Mr. Irvine is of opinion that it is an exceeding early example of Early English. The Barn adjoins the road called the North Liberty.

As a good part of the morning had by this time passed, and there seemed no chance of the same party being able to visit both Wookey Hole and Wookey Church, the Rev. W. Hunt begged the members to make their choice between the two, but to be sure to meet together at the Palace Gate at 2 p.m., in obedience to the kind invitation of the President. By far the larger number chose the excursion to Wookey Hole, but the attractions of the various and unique groups of ecclesiastical buildings, which cluster round the Cathedral, were so strong, that it was some time before the stragglers could be gathered together and induced to set off.

Wookey Hole

was thrown open to the Society by the kindness of Mr. Hodgkinson. Mr. Sanford guided the party, and explained the formation of the cavern. He also described the animal remains, and the traces of human occupation, which he and Mr. W. Boyd Dawkins had found in a cave, called the Hyæna Den, when they first explored the Hole together. Mr. Sanford considered that this cavern, in common with all the caverns and fissures in the limestone, was caused by the action of water. The carbonic acid contained in the rain water, which falls upon the limestone rocks, dissolving the carbonate of lime contained in them. A most interesting account of the formation of caves and

“combes” in the limestone may be found in Vol. XII of the Proceedings, pp. 53 and 161, written by Mr. W. Boyd Dawkins, F.R.S., of the Owens College, who was, at the time he read those papers, a fellow worker with Mr. Sanford. A small number visited

Wookey Church,

which had lately been well restored.

Mr. SEREL called attention to an altar tomb of Thomas Clarke, Esq., and Anthony his wife, who, he said, were people of some repute in their time. Thomas Clarke was chosen one of the members of the city in 1547, and held his seat for six years. A large monument to one of the members of the same family used to stand on the north side of the chancel of St. Cuthbert's Church. This monument was taken away some few years ago, but can still be seen carelessly thrown aside. The armorial bearings on this monument are almost identical with those on that in Wells.

Mr. Freeman hospitably entertained those who were present at a collation, which had been prepared in expectation of a much larger number of guests.

The company, in number about 170, assembled soon after two o'clock at the Gatehouse of the

Bishop's Palace.

The PRESIDENT and Mr. PARKER acted as guides to the party.

The PRESIDENT showed that the portcullis and draw-bridge were not made to work, and said that it would cost quite £300 to make them a reality.

The Rev. Preb. SCARTH said that the only place where the machinery was in working order was the north gate of the Palace at York.

A very full account of the Palace, by Mr. Parker, with beautiful illustrations, may be found in Vol. XI of the Society's Proceedings. The wider portion of the substructure of the present Palace, or undercroft, which was built by Bishop Joscelyn, and which, probably, was used either for stores or as a servants' hall, has been carefully treated by the present Bishop, and has been turned into a dining hall. The north end of Bishop Joscelyn's Hall, with its remarkable window of two lights, trefoil-headed, with a quartrefoil over the heads, which was formerly used as a dining-room, is now a bed-room. The party were taken, not only through the ruins of the old palace, but also over all the especially interesting parts of the present dwelling, and every part was fully explained by their guides; but, as no change has been made in the building, or in its internal arrangements, save the two already-mentioned, since Mr. Parker's paper was written, it does not seem necessary again to record his explanation. When the building had been thoroughly seen, the Right Reverend President and Lady Arthur Hervey entertained their numerous guests at luncheon, which was laid in the old undercroft. After luncheon a few toasts were proposed.

The health of the President was proposed by Sir WILLIAM MEDLYCOTT, who spoke of the kind and able manner in which he had performed the duties of his office, and had cheerfully given up so much of his valuable time to promote the interests of the Society. Sir William Medlycott also begged to express the thanks of all present to Lady Arthur Hervey for the kind and liberal reception which they had met with that day.

The PRESIDENT, in reply, assured his guests that it gave pleasure to him and to Lady Arthur to see them. He expressed a hope that the Society might again, at some

future day, meet at Wells, and spoke of the many objects of interest which yet remained to be seen in the city and the neighbourhood.

The BISHOP then proposed the health of Mr. Sanford, his immediate predecessor in office, and informed the Society that Mr. Sanford had purchased a valuable saurian, which he found was for sale at a house on the route of the day before, and had presented it to the Society.

In returning thanks for the executive officers, the Rev. WILLIAM HUNT explained that his colleague, Mr. O. Malet, was obliged to be absent to recruit his health; he spoke of Mr. Malet's kind assistance, and the great energy with which he applied himself to forward the cause of the Society in all ways, and especially in the matter of the purchase of Taunton Castle. He also wished to bear testimony to the valuable and intelligent services of Mr. Bidgood, the curator and assistant secretary of the Society. He begged to assure the Society that he had not lost sight of a scheme, which had been proposed to him some time ago, of illustrating the History of the County, by a series of papers, by different hands; and, that if Mr. Sanford and others, present and absent, would join in doing their parts, he would do all in his power to carry the matter through. He thanked Mr. Freeman, Mr. Sanford, Mr. Dickinson, and others, for the kind way in which they had spoken of his efforts, and the help they had given him in arranging the present meeting. He had originally agreed to act as secretary, in conjunction with Mr. Malet, only for a short time, until some one could be found to fill the vacancy made by the unexpected death of Mr. Jones, and he did not know how long other engagements would allow him to continue in office, but, as long as he remained secretary, he hoped that the members of the Society would extend

him the same indulgence which he at present received from them, and he could assure them that he would do his best for them.

After a few other toasts, the company separated at five o'clock, the President bidding them a cordial farewell. This ended the meeting of 1873, which was pronounced to be the most successful one which the Society had had, at least since the last Wells meeting of 1863.

NOTE TO THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

My friend, Prebendary Earle, suggests to me that I have overlooked the claims of Bishop Burnell (1275-1292), to be a great statesman as well as a great builder. He has kindly supplied me with the following notes concerning him:—"He was the son of Robert Burnell, of Acton Burnell, Shropshire—practised as a lawyer at Westminster: 1265, was Secretary to Prince Edward: 1273, was the crown nominee to the See of Canterbury against the choice of the monks, Adam de Chillondene. Dean Hook says: 'The crown nominated Robert Burnell, the Chancellor of Prince Edward, one of the greatest and most popular statesmen of the age; of whom it is said, *'Regi tam utilis, plebi tam affabilis, omnibus amabilis: vix nostris temporibus illi similis invenietur.'* In 1274 he received the Great Seal, was Chancellor till Edward's death, and retained the confidence of his royal master to the last. He was a minister worthy of the confidence of such a King as Edward I, and was one of the greatest statesmen our country has produced. I do not see his name in Collier or in Hume." (Lives of the Archbishops, iii, 308.)

The Local Museum

was held in a room of the Town Hall. It contained many objects of great interest. It was chiefly formed by the efforts of Mr. F. H. Dickinson and Mr. T. Serel, who selected and arranged a series of manuscripts, which were kindly lent by the Dean and Chapter, and which were the most important part of the exhibition. There is a large number of manuscripts in the Chapter Records, of which the value has not been ascertained, but if those which were shown are a fair sample of the rest, their importance must be considerable. The following is a list of the most interesting objects exhibited :—

BY THE DEAN AND CHAPTER OF WELLS.

1. A grant by Edgar, King of the Mercians, Northumbrians, and Britons (afterwards king of the whole kingdom), of forty mancuses to Eahlstane. The fourth signature to this grant is that of Bishop Dunstan. The document is in wonderfully good preservation.

2. A duplicate Charter of William II, granting the Abbey of St. Peter at Bath to Bishop John de Villula, 1190.

3. A Charter of Bishop Robert (1136-1166) taking off tolls from the fairs held in Wells, if held in the streets of the city. It declares that the custom had been to hold fairs in the churchyard (the Cathedral Green), and that the services of the House of God had been thus disturbed. The traders are therefore ordered at the fairs held on the Feasts of Holy Cross, St. Kalixtus, and St. Andrew to trade in the streets, and so they should be free of toll.

4. A grant by John, Earl of Moreton (afterwards king), of certain lands to the Canons of Wells.

5. A coteremporaneous copy of the certificate, sent to Pope Innocent III, of the election of Joscelin Trotman as Bishop, 1206. Against the name of each witness is S, with a cross, to mark the seal of the original.

6. A grant of land by Hugh of Wells, Bishop of Lincoln, to "our venerable brother, the Lord Joscelin, Bishop of Bath and Glastonbury," 1214.

7. A Charter of Bishop Roger, relating to the dispute between the Prior and Convent of St. Peter's, at Bath, and the Dean and Chapter of Wells, concerning the election of Bishops, 1246.

8. A license in Mortmain by Edward I. The great seal attached to this document is in good preservation.

BY COMMAND OF THE BISHOP.

The Register of Bishop Drovensford, 1319-29.

The Register of Bishop Ralph of Shrewsbury, 1329-58.

The Register of Bishop Beckington, 1443-6.

The Laws of the Mines of Mendip, on parchment.

BY THE PROVOST OF ETON.

Visitation of William Button, Bishop of Bath and Wells, 1270.

Institution of Ralph, Canon and Chaplain, by proxy, to Wootton Courtenay, by Bishop John Harewell, 1386.

A writ from the Crown (Richard II) to the Bishop, concerning the right of presentation and induction to Wootton Courtenay.

BY MR. T. SEREL.

An accord between Adam of Sodbury, Abbot of Glastonbury, and John Godelee, Dean of Wells, as to certain rights in Weare, Wedmore, and other places in 1327.

An address of the principal inhabitants of Wells to James II, 1683.

Specimens of Newspapers, 1678-1716.

Declaration by Lord Hertford to the chief gentlemen of Somerset, with a letter from the Governor of Sherborne Castle, 1642.

Petition of the Hundred of Chewton against the levying of ship money.

A silver tankard, inscribed : *Ex dono Georgii Dodington de civitate Wellen : in Com : Somerset in usum Sociorum Scissorum ejusdem civit : A.D. 1690.*

BY THE VICARS CHORAL.

Their curious collection of silver plate, chalice, spoons, &c.

BY REV. W. CAPARN, OF DRAYCOT.

A statuette and base found in the roof of a house at Nyland, bronze celts, spear-head, fibulæ, &c.

Messrs. GOLLEDGE, of Bath, showed a beautiful example of mediæval illumination on vellum, which came from Batcombe, and seems to be part of a missal.

Mr. SAMPSON, of Yeovil, and Mr. S. FLETCHER showed some interesting coins.

The LIBRARIAN of the Dean and Chapter lent the copy of Aristotle which belonged to Erasmus, and contains notes in his handwriting. It was printed at the Aldine Press. Also the autograph of Bishop Ken in a small book.

The Rev. G. W. WILLIAMS brought from the library of Trinity College, Cambridge, a MS. book, written by Chandler, Chancellor of Wells, which contains a portrait of Bishop Beckington.

Mr. J. T. IRVINE exhibited sundry curious articles which he had found during the progress of the restoration of Bath Abbey.

The Museum.

ADDITIONS SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE LAST
VOLUME :—

Brief Sketches of the Parishes of Bootherstowry and Donnybrook, parts 1, 2, 3, and 4, by the Author, Rev. H. H. BLACKER.

Manual of the Common Council of New York, 1863, by Mr. G. L. SHAW.

Journal of the Royal Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland.

Journal of the British Archæological Association.

The Archæological Journal.

Gold Torques and Armillæ discovered in Kent, by Mr. C. ROACH SMITH.

Proceedings of the Bristol Naturalists' Society.

Proceedings of the Geologists' Association.

Proceedings of the Bath Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club.

Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London.

Memoirs and Proceedings of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester.

Report of the Smithsonian Institution, 1872.

Synopsis of the Flora of Colorado.

Bulletin of the United States Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories. No. 1.

Bulletin of the Essex Institute, Salem, Mass., vol 5.

Encaustic tiles from Muchelney Abbey, by Mr. T. SHELMERDINE.

Silver pennies of William I and II, struck at Ilchester (purchased).

Stone coffin found at Merriott, by Rev. J. H. EVANS.

Delft Plate marked "Willes, Popham & Liberty." (purchased).

Two pieces of old red sandstone, showing glacial striation, from near Porlock, by Mr. W. C. LUCY.

Egg of black swan from Australia, by Mr. P. PRANKERD.

Roman and other coins, by Mr. H. H. BASTARD.

Half-crown, Charles I, by Mr. W. HOUSE.

Club, stone axe, boomerangs, &c., from Queensland, by Mr. WALTER MAYNARD.

Casts of spandrils from Axbridge Church, by Rev. J. A. YATMAN.

Kite, *Milvus iclinus*, killed at East Coker, by Mr. W. H. HELYAR.

Two paddles from Vancouver's Island, by Lieut. ROBERT LAWSON, R.N.

Notes to Plan of Norton Camp.

The survey for this plan (which may be regarded as closely approximate to a correct one) was made by chaining, and taking the magnetic bearings of four of the principal radii; and measuring by pacing, or, in a few cases, with a tape, the surrounding vallum and other details, whose directions were observed on a copious series of compass-bearings.

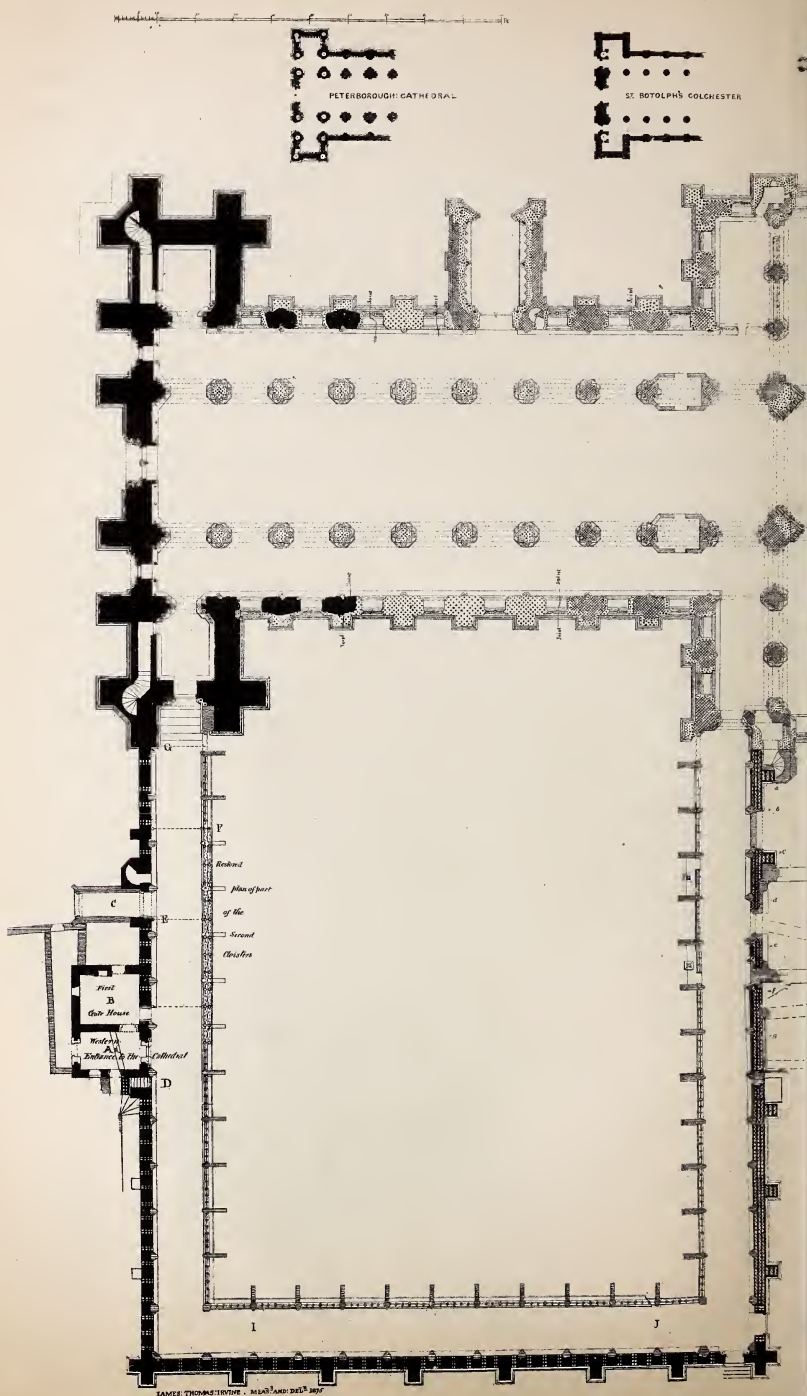
In no part do the vallum and ditch appear to remain as originally constructed. The former has probably been at every point more or less removed, and the latter filled up or replaced by a modern hedge and ditch. The section I.K., perhaps, shows the original work better than any other. If there were ever a second and outer vallum, the only relic of it now remaining is north of footpath, near N.W. hand-gate. The embankments are made of marl, and in the highest part are not more than about 7 feet above enclosure. The ditch is very shallow. The long hollow, extending from near the crest of the hill to the pond on the east side, seems to be a natural valley. The other hollows are evidently artificial.

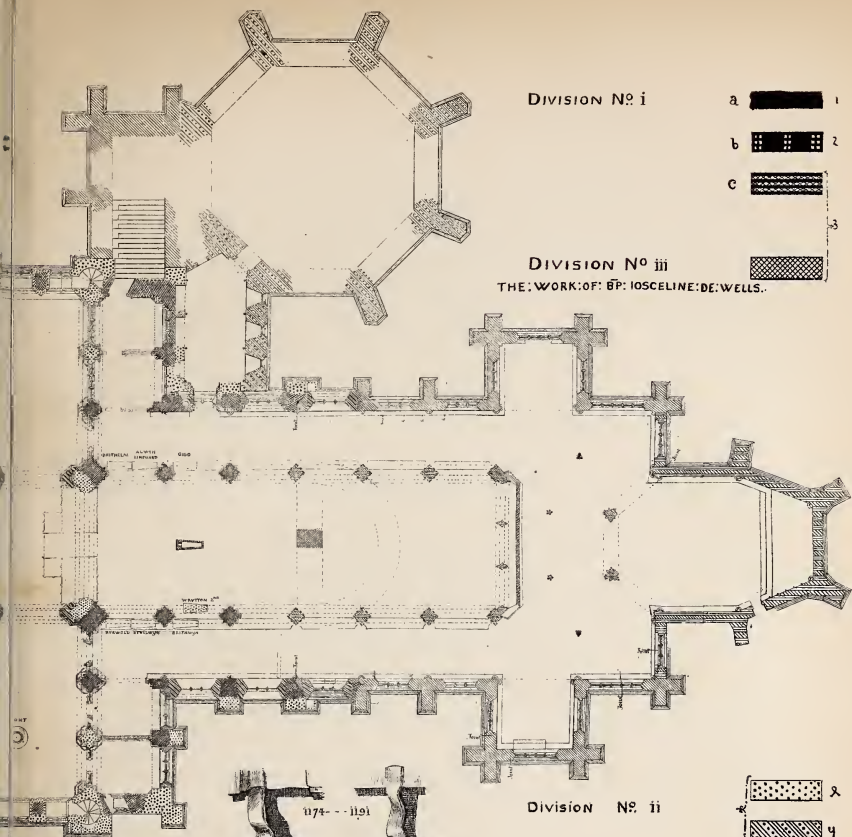
The enclosure contains by estimation $12\frac{1}{3}$ acres.

C. W. DYMOND, C.E.

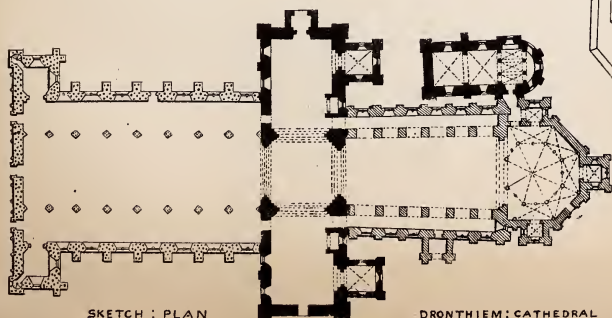
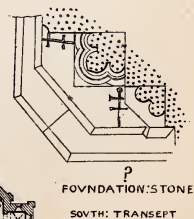
WELLS: CATHEDRAL

GROUND · PLAN





THE SEAL: OF: EP: REGINALD FITZ: JOSCELINE
FROM: HIS: CHARTER: TO: WELLS: CITY: OF: .



SKETCH: PLAN

DRONTHIEM: CATHEDRAL

NO: SCALE

ADDITIONAL NOTES TO PAPER ON WELLS

CATHEDRAL, in Vol. xix. Part 2.

By Mr. J. T. IRVINE.

Page 15. The drawing referred to in the note at the bottom of this page will be found in the margin of the diagram, giving the added supports to the central tower.

Page 29. In line 13 from top, for 1258 read 1253.

Page 32. In line 25, after *Cathedral* insert *and*.

Page 33. "Fall of vault or spire." Since the paper was read I have been induced to think that the different views of Mr. Freeman and Prebendary Scarth may be easily reconciled, if we suppose the destruction took place from the new vault in the crux, forcing over not only the tower arches, but also so much of the piers themselves as to bring down the choir vault with it.

In preparing the diagrams for the use of the photolithographer two difficulties have arisen. First, in the case of the masses of stone pilasters on the interior of the present west door, the scale did not allow the fact to be shown that they were only cut down to the present shape when the new nave was built. Secondly, from the plans of the windows being given, it has been difficult to show always the junction of the several works, especially that of Bp. Josceline de Wells. His work mostly in the aisle walls of nave rises no higher than the strings below the window sills—However, a reference to the sections, &c., will make it in most cases clear.

The projection of Josceline de Wells' buttresses can be seen in the first buttress to east from north porch. Remarkable

instances of the junction of his work with that of the period of the new nave may be seen in the partly built up lockers in east walls of both his lower vestries, at north-west and south-west angles of transepts. (The last now turned into an entrance to the stairs of library.)

A slight trace of one jamb of a window, possibly Josceline's, remains below sill of the west window of those in south gable of south transept, on its left-hand side; close to which a fragment of a door, seemingly his, also remains above the present one.

The tracery of the windows of the period of the new nave has been even more carefully removed by the men of the Perpendicular age, than had been the windows of the work of Bishop Josceline de Wells by those of the earlier period. Slight traces inside the gable windows of both transepts seem to show that where the broken stone work is now repaired in cement or plaster, and jointed to imitate stone, shafts for moulded orders had existed.

In the north-west tower there remain two inserted water drains to left of where the altar stood; and the iron hold-fast, for holding up the coved wood reredos above the altar, still remains in the jamb of the north-east window in north wall.

The seal of Bp. Reginald Fitz Josceline, given with the plan, is taken from that to his charter to Wells city, and probably dates in his first year.

The valuable information given on the plan respecting Stillington's Chapel was obtained by the kindness of Prebendary D. M. Clerk, from his measurements obtained when he had excavations made in 1850. The small respond base of the arch to a chapel, added about the time the stairs to the present Chapter House were built, and agreeing in its mouldings with its staircase, I found in 1873; at which time, also, part of the tile pavement of the original Lady Chapel in the cloisters was laid open. The floor of that chapel was 1 foot 11½ inches lower than that of Bp. Stillington's Chapel, measured at the entrance to this last.

It may be of some value towards the evidence that Prebendary Clerk has given of John de Marcel, Canon, being connected with the erection of the eastern chapels, to

mention that in the tracery head of the south window, next east end of choir aisle, there appears, reading from east to west, a head of St. Aldhelm, St. Linus Pad: St. Bō Hegi Epis, and St. Erkenwald. In the opposite window on the north side are found, reading from west to east—St. Stephen, St. Blaise, St. Erkenwald, and *St. Marcellis*, with a figure of our Lord in the top opening.

The arms of Mortimer, and St. Edward's ring, both of which appear in the window of the Chapter House, over the entrance, seem to be connected with the arms of Roger de Mortimer, Archdeacon of Wells (about 1333—1334).

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY,
1873, PART II.

PAPERS, ETC.

AN ATTEMPT TO SEPARATE AND DESCRIBE
IN THE PROPER ORDER OF THEIR EREC-
TION THE VARIOUS PORTIONS OF THE

*Fabric of the Cathedral Church of
St. Andrew at Wells.*

BY MR. J. T. IRVINE.

THE Church of St. Andrew in Wells is supposed to have been founded by King Ina about A.D. 708.

The actual foundation of the present See of Wells is believed to have been the work of Edward the Elder, between the years 905 and 910.

A church of stone had most likely been built about 970, as Brihthelm, the first bishop buried here, died in 973,

and almost all his successors (before the removal of the See to Bath, about 1092) were interred at Wells. Of this building the greater part stood until taken down by Bishop Josceline de Wells probably after 1218. To the Saxon church Bishop Gisa after the Conquest added a cloister and other buildings, pulled down again by his successor Bishop John de Villula.

To this Bishop John is owing an alteration in the See, which had in the end considerable results on the architectural history of the present Cathedral. In this wise:—

Procuring from King William Rufus a grant of the town of Bath, to which place in accordance with the decree of the Council of London (1078), he removed his seat (about the year 1092) and changed his title to "*Bishop of Bath.*" He thus abandoned what had been used for about 180 years.

Here Bishop John commenced erecting a new cathedral in the somewhat heavy Norman style of his time, of wonderful magnificence and so durably constructed that neither the wilful neglect and carelessness of its monks during 370 years (which drew down the sharp reproaches of a later bishop), nor the re-use of its materials in the present church, nor the vicissitudes of now more than 750 years have sufficed wholly to eradicate its remains. Some idea of his design may be obtained from the fact that the extreme *external* length at present of "the Bath Abbey" is only about some five feet or so longer than the mere nave of his cathedral. He seems to have designed to reduce Wells to a country seat of the bishops of the See. I suspect the entire removal of the prebends to Bath was only prevented by the fact that Wells had secular clergy while Bath was held by monks. Bath now became the resting-place of the bishops. John de Villula was followed

by Bishop Godfrey, who also called himself "*Bishop of Bath*," and thus had little inducement to repair Wells. One Historical Chapter sitting here, we find him however trying (though ineffectually) to recover their lost property for them.

His successor, Bishop Robert, prior to his accession, had had charge of Glastonbury, where he probably had felt the full blaze of the rising sun of the monastery of Bath, which now threatened to scorch its more ancient and aristocratic brother at Glaston. Thus from local attachment (although he had finished the buildings at Bath) still he may have desired to raise at Wells a counterpoise to that monastery. For in his very first year he set about regulating and renovating the somewhat shattered community in this city, and enjoined that himself and successors should again be termed Bishops of "*Bath and Wells*."

As the restorer of the old historical title there followed a direct interest in the spot, and we are told he rebuilt the east end or apse*—a construction now indeed entirely removed, but still affecting the later alterations. This may be seen by those who inspect the fragments of this *later* apse attached to the side walls in the space below the exterior roof of choir but over the perpendicular vaulting, on a transverse line, corresponding below with that pier in the

* Towards the close of the year 1873, Canon Bernard had the chapel under the clock cleared out to form a vestry for the use of the vicars. In removing a rude stone staircase, perhaps built some time in 1600, a loose Norman base was found, very similar in section to the work found at Bath, and some time afterwards, when the Canon was having an opening for water pipes cut through the floor of the small vaulted room in the corner of the north transept, out of the heart of the wall was taken a Norman fragment, half of a dragon's head, stopping to the label of an arch mould of about the date of Bishop Robert. These two fragments, of little value elsewhere, are here curious, as they are the only Norman fragments known to have been found in the Cathedral at Wells.

chancel against which the Bishop's throne is placed. These remains, coincident with the rebuilding of the transepts, mark the line of the interior of the apse of Robert.

To the time of Bishop Robert we probably owe the font, though the chiselling off of the figures, with which it was once surrounded, prevents its late Norman date being recognised. It is now the only bit of that style left in the Cathedral. However, in the south-west angle of the house, which J. H. Parker, C.B., has so nobly and liberally restored, are still seen some Norman remains and walling, possibly one jamb of a gate at the north-east corner of the great cemetery. Robert, who died in 1165-6, sleeps at Bath, and the See remained afterwards vacant more than eight years. He was succeeded in 1174 by Reginald Fitz Joceline, who eventually termed himself Bishop of *Bath and Wells*. I believe he had much to do with the design of the present west-front. He certainly could find little scope for additions to the Cathedral at Bath or its monastic buildings (completed as we are told by Bishop Robert); nor had the Lady Chapels of later times then become the grand features they afterwards did attain to. Indeed no such service even as yet seems to have existed at Wells.*

* Joceline. "Hic primo anno consecrationis suæ servitium B. Marice in Ecclesia Wellensi fecit quotidie decantari." Canon of Wells.

"Joceline, in 1215, gives 10 marks yearly from y^e Church of Chew, besides which 20 marks from the Provostship of Coomb to maintain a perpetual and solemn service of y^e Virgin Mary, every day and every hour in y^e Church of Wells. 10 marks more of y^e Provost of Coomb, for a full and solemn service for y^e dead, to be for ever celebrated, every day, in y^e said church; and y^e goods assigned for y^e performance of y^e said services by y^e Bishops, our predecessors, and others; and y^e portion of y^e said goods w^{ch} used to be assigned to y^e vicars of y^e said church, who assisted in y^e said services according to y^e appointment of Bishop Joceline."

"3 marks a year from y^e Church of Chyuton, for maintaining y^e candle

After the death of Bishop Reginald, in 1191, the remarkable changes of title which the See had undergone did not terminate, for Savaric, a cousin of Bishop Reginald, succeeded and again changed it to that of Glastonbury ; or, as Mr. Serel informs me, he terms himself in his charter to Wells city, Bishop of *Bath and Glastonbury*, thus again abandoning that of Wells. Elected in 1192, he remained for about seven years abroad in Burgundy, and lived for four or five years after his return at Bath. He died in 1205.

The architecture led me to suspect at one time that he raised the west-front, as in 1203-4 his property was sequestrated for a debt of £1000. As his return was only some four or five years before, there was scarcely time left for the execution of such an undertaking.

The new title was scarcely relished by the Glastonbury monks, who probably saw by the fate of Bath that the monastic property would practically pass under the Bishop's control, and that their own rights to its use would be thus

of ye Blessed Virgin, in ye Church of Wells, by ye appointment of Bishop Jocelin."

In Reg. Well. I. fol. 43. In the year MCCXV. Josceline, Bishop of Bath and Glaston, grants a pension of 10 marks, payable out of the parsonage of Chew.

"Ad Servituum Gloriosæ Virginis in ecclesia Wellen: solemniter faciendum in perpetuum."

"100 pounds of wax, paid by ye Parson of Weston, near Wor-spring, to ye Treasurer of Wells, for maintaining lights in ye Church of Wells, appointed by Bishop Josceline, who procured the advowson of Weston to himself and his successors for ever."

"2 marks per annum, paid by ye Archdeacon of ye place to the Treasurer of Wells, for finding eight tapers, at ye feet of ye crucifix, on ye altar of St. Andrew, to burn whilst ye Divine Mystery is celebrating in ye said chapel, on all ye greater double feasts, to be paid out of ye yearly rent payable by ye Archdeacon to ye Bishop. Appointed by Bishop Josceline."

curtailed. On the death of Savaric in August, 1205, their struggles against the Bishop openly commenced by an appeal to the Pope. The monks of Glastonbury carried on a war of twelve years, from 1206 to 1218, with Bishop Josceline Trotman (or de Wells), who succeeded Savaric both in the See and the title which he took. At last Josceline retired by a compromise from the struggle, and, abandoning the appellation of *Glaston*, returned to that of Bath and Wells, retained and used to the present day by all by whom the seat has been filled down to him who so zealously and painfully shepherds the fold at the present time.

During these twelve years of contention with Glaston Bishop Josceline had also been engaged in a contest with King John, by whom he had been banished (after holding the seat about three years), and he did not return home until some five years afterwards. Josceline was a Wells man and a prebendary. To his time the Saxon church had stood with only the addition of the presbytery of Bishop Robert, who in an age of change had likewise termed himself Bishop of Wells. The Cathedral at Bath was one of mark.* The new erection at Glastonbury was also of ex-

* The nave of the Cathedral at Bath was about one-fourth longer than that at Wells; but, as it had only 8 bays, its arches were much wider than those of Wells, where the bays number 10 to the tower, or 9, if we exclude that ranging with western aisles of transepts.

Josceline seems to have had an Obituary Service for his soul at Bath, as well as at Wells. There is a document preserved at Wells, executed by John (Clerk), Bishop of Bath and Wells, ordaining that a Mass, instituted by Bishop Josceline, shall be restored, A.D. 1535.

In the list of obits, "from an old book of the Vicar's," given in the "Long Book," it appears in the first quarter, under the head of "Solemn : Jocelini episcopi, 01.,00.,00."

The services for the soul of Bishop Josceline were to be said at the Altars of the Virgin and St. Martin, 1243.

treme beauty. Josceline's long connection with Chichester had been at a time when abundant rebuilding was going on in that southern diocese, and the work at Canterbury of both the French and English Williams (its architects) had but lately been completed. Every inducement, even his defeat at Glastonbury and fresh adoption of the title of Wells, lent an additional spur to his reconstruction, in a manner somewhat worthy of the time of the "ruined walls" and "broken frame" of his native Cathedral—that minster wherein his successors were to have a seat and after which they were to be named.

It is no longer necessary after the death of Josceline, in 1242, to follow the historical descent of the Bishops of the See. For two reasons : first, because no one has ever ventured to suppose the early work of the west end could by any possibility be later in date than the time of Josceline ; and secondly, because from his time, and even earlier, a change was taking place both at Wells and other Cathedrals—the transference of property and wealth, and thus the ability to produce works of this sort, from the hands of the Bishops into those of the Deans and Chapters of our Cathedrals. A change not always unaccompanied by local contentions, such as at Wells, commencing under the first Bishop Button, culminated in the time of Bishop Drovensford. When the Chapter finally triumphed under the leading of Dean Goodeley, who was himself one of the greatest restorers of the whole building.

For convenience I will therefore divide the building roughly into the *five* divisions, into which, to the stranger visiting the Cathedral, the interior architectural features naturally group themselves. Time will not permit the consideration of any of the external buildings though all are of extreme interest.

I. *The First Division* consists of the west-front, including the north and south towers, for about three-fourths of their height.

II. *The Second Division* consists of the nave and central tower up to a few feet above the apex of the present nave roof, a great part of the transepts, and the whole upper walls above the string over the three western arches of the choir only.

III. *The Third Division* consists of the three eastern arches of the nave and a fraction of one triforium pier on each side over parts of its arcades ; also the walls of nave aisle on the north as far as slightly beyond the north door ; and on the south side for about three bays from the transept ; the lower parts of transept walls and some work of pillars ; the three western arches of choir, and part of the corresponding aisle walls.

IV. *The Fourth Division* consists of the whole portion east of the Bishop's throne in the choir and the upper (structural) part of the central tower.

V. *The Fifth Division*, a small one, comprises the upper part of the three eastern bays of chancel, and the recasting and altering the inside of the rest of the before-mentioned western half of the choir, triforium, and clerestory.

These two last divisions, although separate works and mostly of different styles, were probably yet divided by no such marked pause between their execution as the foregoing parts. I of necessity omit the perpendicular additions to the west towers, as well as the abundant repairs, especially in the central tower, and the insertions of screens, windows, and window tracery, &c., throughout the Cathedral. The three first divisions of these five are popularly

attributed to Bishop Josceline de Wells. The carved decorations of each possess features totally distinct in themselves and, with the exception of numbers 2 and 3, have in their mouldings an equally decided separation. In the first division the mouldings are composed of a succession of rounds and hollows, *rarely fillets*, and these, when found, only at the extreme angle of the orders. This part (No. 1) I believe to be the earliest in date, and to have had originally the next three bays of nave nearly completed. In Nos. 2 and 3, the hollow mouldings have had a remarkable increase of fillets added at their sides, the result being that the sharpness and brilliancy of the lights are softened and the depths of the shadows correspondingly sacrificed. The change in the mouldings of the fourth and fifth divisions being still greater. In the fourth the first *marked* trace of the Perpendicular style and its great casement or flat hollow moulding appears in the east windows of the choir aisles; and in those of the Lady Chapel: *afterwards* extending to the columns of new part of choir, these being built *last*. On this ground plan of the Cathedral ($\frac{1}{4}$ inch to foot) I have coloured in different shades those parts of the building which are the execution of the various times, and mostly divided from each other by joints in the masonry, easily recognisable by the ordinary observer after a little study. In the large longitudinal and transverse diagrams (which I wish it understood do not pretend to be to scale, but only rough quantities) I have endeavoured to do the same though not always with equal accuracy. Large portions of what looks old work being in west piers of central tower rebuilt with old materials.

The supposition that to Reginald Fitz Joceline, Bishop from 1174 to 1191, is owing the construction of the *architectural part* of the west-front and towers (*though not the*

figures which fill in its niches), necessitates a short review of his history and a slight glance at the changing state of architecture during his time.*

* As it may seem placing the commencement of the Pointed style early to attribute the west front to Bishop Reginald Fitz Josceline, who died in 1191, I may here copy some notes from a description by Sir G. G. Scott, which tell somewhat on the point. He says, "So that the works at Lincoln, the Lady Chapel at Winchester, and west portals of St. Albans and Ely, all of which date from 1195 to 1215, mark the *perfectly developed Early English style*, but are readily distinguishable from contemporary works in France." "The English works of this period have, at least, to my eye, a more advanced appearance than the French." "The round form of abacus, the greater richness and delicacy of the mouldings, and generally a more decided severance from the manner of Romanesque forms." (The italics are mine.)

And in a similar manner, J. H. Parker, C.B., in his paper on "Medieval Architecture in the south of France." *Archæologia*, vol. 36, page 324 :—"The different provinces of France differ much more from each other in their architectural character than the northern provinces do from England. The style of the south of France is totally different from that of the north, and in the 11th century clearly indicates a more advanced state of civilization. The intermediate districts of Anjou and Poitou, which I have described in my previous letters, are extremely interesting from the mixture of the styles of the south and the north in the 12th century, *especially in the time of Henry II* (1154 to 1189). The hospital, which he founded and built at Angers, appears to me in a more advanced style of art than any other building in France or England of its date. It is more light and elegant, more decidedly Gothic, than the east end of Canterbury; and Notre Dame at Paris, which is nearly contemporary with it, is half a century behind it in style; the one has all the heavy massive character of the Romanesque; the other all the lightness and elegance of the Gothic. Henry II, as Count of Anjou, resided much at Angers, and held his court there, (see note of Bishop of Angers, from 1178 to 1200), which was frequented by the English nobility and the higher orders of clergy, among whom the architects of the day must be looked for; and as architects at all periods were ready to pick up and carry away new ideas, it seems probable that the English architects were much indebted to their observations in Anjou, for several ornaments, especially the tooth ornament, are common there in buildings of earlier character than any in which we find the same ornaments in England or in other parts of France. The pointed arch was common there in the 11th century, as in the south both round and pointed arches were used indiscriminately according to convenience. That the Normans at that period were behind the south in civilization, and consequently in architectural progress, is evident in many ways. I have mentioned the town of Moissac, built at the end of

His father, Josceline, Bishop of Old Sarum, was present

the 11th century in a finished style of art, and with pointed arches, afterwards fortified by Richard I (1189 to 1199), and partly incased in rude and clumsy Norman work with round arches. The contrast of the styles of the south and the north, when thus placed in juxtaposition, is very remarkable, and shows a decided superiority in that of the south at that period, from about 1050 to 1150 ; but the south stood still while the north progressed rapidly, and the Gothic style is decidedly of northern origin, although some of the intermediate steps may have derived considerable impetus from the collision of the two styles in Anjou. These English provinces were in a more advanced state of civilization than England itself was at the time these buildings were erected—that is before the time of Henry II (1154 to 1189) ; after that period a great change takes place, and during the following century it is still doubtful which country had the priority in the architectural movement, and the French buildings of the time of Edward I are not equal to the English. It is chiefly in the earlier periods, especially in the 11th century, that the difference is so remarkable, and the advantage so much in favour of France. This gradually gives way, though they were probably still somewhat ahead, until towards the end of the 13th century, when the tables were turned in our favour. But this subject requires further investigation, and a more careful examination of dates of the buildings in both countries. Much of the change was probably owing to the character of Edward I, in whose time art was in higher perfection in England than it ever was before, or perhaps I may venture to say, it has ever been since.”

Mr. Parker has given woodcuts of a window (in the *Archæologia*) from the Church of Mercadel, at Bazas, in the south of France, the sections of the mouldings of which closely resemble the sections of the mouldings of the west front of Wells. It is well worth noting that the mouldings of the work, said to be St. Hugh's, at Lincoln, though of the same style, are different in section, and look to me later than Wells. Through the kindness of Mr. Parker, I was able to have a sheet of them (taken full size) hung up in the Chapter House when this paper was read.

It is worthy of note also that many prelates in France were Englishmen: Willm. of Corboil had been Archbishop of Canterbury, 1123 to 1136.

John Petit, or *John of Salisbury*, Bishop of Chartres, 1176 to 1182.

Robert de Beaumont, or of Warwick, son of Henry, Earl of Warwick, had been Archbishop of Rouen, 1164 to 1183.

Henry of Salisbury was Bishop of Bayeux, 1165 to 1203.

Ralph Beaumont, a natural son of Henry I and an Englishman, was Bishop of Angers, 1178 to 1200.

Walter de Contances, or Walter Constantine, a native of Cornwall, was removed from being Bishop of Lincoln to be Archbishop of Rouen, in 1183.

St. Hugh of Burgundy, removed from Witham to be Bishop of Lincoln, 1186 to 1200.

at Bishop Robert's dedication of his newly-erected presbytery, &c. Among the archives of the Dean and Chapter of Wells is preserved a document by which Louis VII. of France appoints Reginald Fitz Josceline, then Archdeacon of Sarum, Abbot of St. Exuperantius, at Corboil, near Paris (believed to be of the date of 1164). In the year before had been laid the first stone of the Cathedral of Paris.

Reginald Fitz Josceline was ambassador to the Pope in 1171, and was consecrated to this See on his return from Rome in 1174. In that year Canterbury Cathedral was burnt. (Its restoration commenced in 1175.) Reginald, as Bishop of Bath, gives a grant to Wells city in 1174 or 1175, to which is still attached his seal in excellent preservation, both seal and counter-seal.* Reginald signs documents in 1177. The French William fell from the scaffolding at Canterbury in 1178. Reginald again proceeded to Rome and was present at the Lateran Council in March, 1179.

After three years the French William returned home, and the English William continued the work at Canterbury in 1180.

* From the fact that Dean Richard signs as a witness to this charter of Bishop Reginald to Wells city, there seems no reason to doubt it was executed in the Bishop's first year. The seal, and counter seal (in green wax) are in excellent state. The mitre is hollow in front. The pastoral staff, held in the left hand, has the crook turned to the person. Both figures are similar in these respects. The large one reads—

✠ REGINAVDVS DEI GRATIA BATHONIENSIS EPISCOPVS.

The small—

✠ RAINAVL' DEI GRATIA BAHONIENSIS EPISCOPVS.

The documents belonging to the town of Wells appear to be all in an excellent state, both documents and seals. Those of the Chapter precisely the reverse, with seals mostly lost or in bad state. In the case of the seal of Savaric, in his charter to Wells city, the mitre is pointed in front.

Paris Cathedral was so far advanced as to have its high altar dedicated in 1182.

Bishop Reginald Fitz Josceline signs the King's charter for rebuilding Glastonbury, which had been burned in 1184. He dedicates the new work there in 1186. He is found signing and obtains a grant from King Richard, 1189.

Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury (1185-1190), to curb his monks built a college at Hackington, near Canterbury. Pope Celestine sent a bull to the Bishop of *Bath and Wells*, after the death of Baldwin in 1190, ordering its demolition which the monks did instantly, not even waiting for the King's permission.

The monks of Canterbury elected Reginald Fitz Josceline to be Archbishop, but his death took place before consecration in 1191. He was buried in Bath, near the high altar. (Godwin, pp. 100, 363): "Sepultus est autem Bathoniæ prope majus altare die S. Thomæ Martyris." (Ralph de Diceto.) At Bath he is said to have rebuilt the Church of St. Mary de Stalls, and founded (or refounded?) the Hospital of St. John, with its chapel, and in connection with the same hospital he rebuilt the Church of S. Michael within the walls. The whole of these having been since destroyed or rebuilt leaves us unable to say how far any similarity to the work of the west-front at Wells may have existed.

This Bishop, to whom the work of the rebuilding of the Cathedral at Paris was well-known, and who had these refoundings of Canterbury and Glaston going on around him, must surely have had a strong inducement to connect his name with a reconstruction of the old Saxon Cathedral, then contrasting so strongly, in all its poverty of design and decayed state, with its younger and more showy brother at Bath.

After carefully weighing all the available evidence I have become fairly satisfied that his name may be connected with a proposed reconstruction of Wells, intended to have been executed on a scale more magnificent than any the world had seen, or the brain of Gothic architect had as yet ever conceived.

To obtain at the earliest moment a portion to be used for Divine service, the construction of large churches began generally at the east end. But the very practical men of the early school were on the whole guided by the peculiar circumstances of each case. Here the east end had been built by Bishop Robert so recently, and, no doubt, so well in the late Norman style of this day, that Divine service could be carried on in it and in the Saxon church, while the new work should rise around both. The scheme therefore became one to build the new west end in front of the still standing church and gradually to envelope both the old Cathedral and its services together within the walls of the new minster. The design was worthy of the purpose for which it was intended. A west end of singular magnificence was to present in its decoration (whereon the sculptor should expend all his art) the scheme of man's redemption, the object and purpose of his creation, and the love, sufferings, and glory of his triumphant Redeemer. In a line above the apex of the west door, framed in quatrefoils, commenced, on the right, the creation of all things, the world, Adam, Eve, &c., which passing through the whole scripture history, as it passed completely round the building, was to return and finish on the left of the same point with the close of the Apocalypse. The new building had been erected of the best local materials. The blue lias (its fickleness perhaps not then known) served when polished instead of black marble, to give contrast in strings, shafts,

bases, and abaci, to the light-coloured Douling stone. In the interior the more durable red conglomerate from Draycot lent richness and beauty of colour to the nave piers and aisle wall-shafts.

If we have to thank Bishop Reginald Fitz Josceline for originating the design of the reconstruction, there is strong reason to believe that some one else largely assisted. Over what was the *great entrance* (not the present west door of nave, but the *ancient great door*, that from present west cloister walk into the south-west, now "Harewell's" tower), in one of the intersecting arches on the east side of the staircase buttress (looking east) is a secular figure sitting on a cushioned throne, dressed in simple costume, and having *no tonsure*. This the only figure which can undoubtedly be said to be coeval with the erection of the west-front, and carved by the hands of those who executed the rest of its foliage, every pane of which is of different design. Retired among which this one figure was placed in a position where it had escaped notice until the present restoration, when from its character and position it became evident that it was intended to commemorate a person in some special way connected with the erection of the structure.

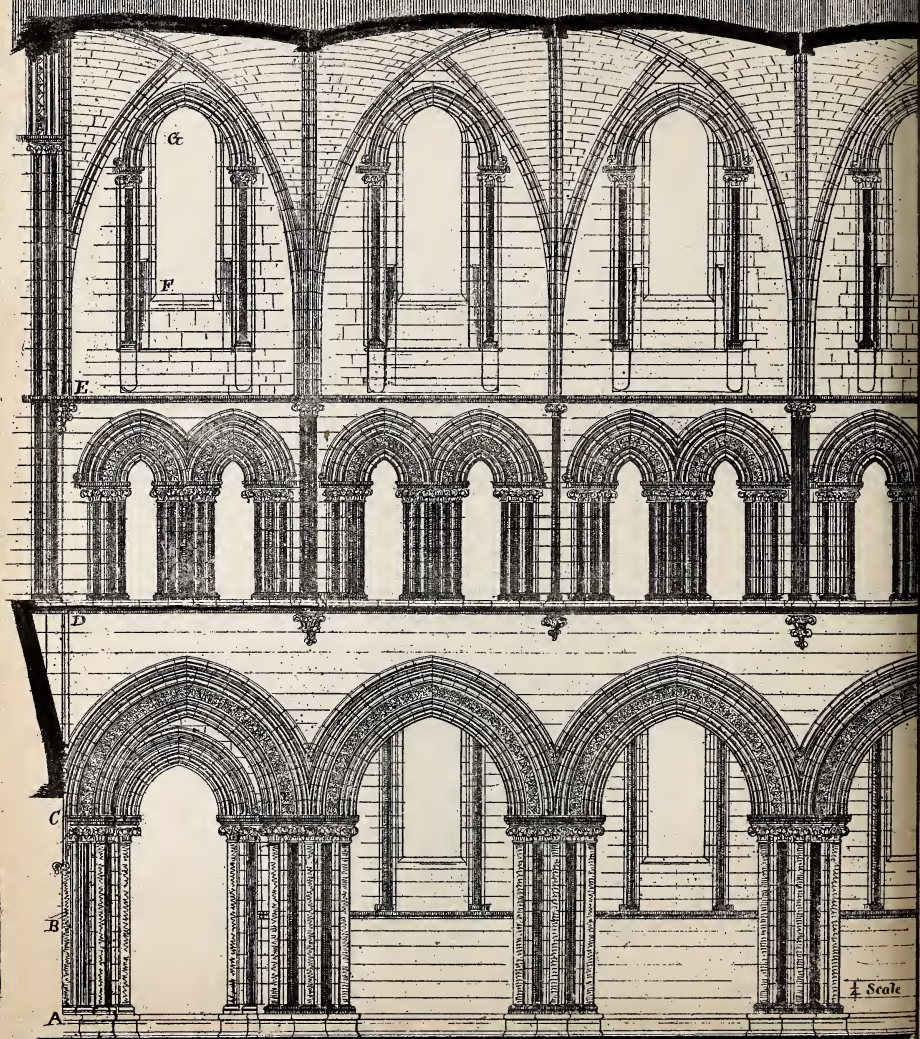
That the west end was built prior to the erection of the nave, the sections of its mouldings and many small facts in the construction seem strongly to prove.* I will

* Since this paper was written I have obtained a drawing, showing the junction of the new work of north aisle to the east wall of the north-west tower with the jointing of the stones. This shows so clearly the dates of the two works that I have withdrawn the other drawings of the jointings on the south side. It will be seen that the stone next to string under the sills of window had, to fit on it the new jamb of window of aisle, been reduced till a bottom slip of two niches, and about the same proportion of back end were left. The evidence of this drawing I think may be simply left to speak for itself, as it is irresistible.

mention two special items. The return pieces of the moulded marble string intended to divide the first clerestory from its triforium, whose fragments were preserved from the original design by the builders of the present nave when pulling down the old side bays to join their work home to the west wall. Had these fragments been used in building the west wall up against the west ends of nave walls they would have been purposeless, and how could the west half arches of these nave openings have stood? Secondly, if any one will trace in the south aisle wall (of nave) the thin courses of stone, representing the line of the polished lias abacus of the tower caps, he will see it extends just so far eastward as the original walling of the west end goes and no further, while the wall above the springing lines of the window arches is of the date of the new nave. Had the nave been erected first what could have been the reason, or was it at all possible that a course of constructional stones was introduced in work they were then executing connected only with a design not yet dreamed of or imagined? (The refacing of the interior of the north wall, that which had no doubt suffered most from the south-west rains, has left only a short length to the first column on that side.) The spurs or projections of the side walls of the west end, serving as buttressings, are covered by the later nave aisle walls, as we should expect in work executed in divisions.

The front may have been commenced shortly after 1182, and ceased to be proceeded with about 1191. The use of the round abacus exists throughout the design, and it was at least not before 1218, that the square abacus (never in marble) was first introduced by Bishop Josceline de Wells—architect (who ever he was). It is no where used in the west-front work inside or out. The work of Bishop

An attempt to recover the original elevation of the first Nave
as designed by the Architect of the West-front
A.C.D. as fixed by the other early work of the West end.
B. Nave of these original red (Diabase) marble shafts of first design
still are remaining in position quite perfect
E. Fragments of this Last string remain on both sides
F.G. These levels are fixed by external mouldings of West end.



Josceline de Wells, and the later periods have always moulded neck moulds to caps. These, in the early work of the west-front, are invariably simple rolls.

To recover the original conception of the Cathedral, designed by the architect of the west-front, has, I confess, had to me an interest before which the gradual progression of the parts of the existing building paled : especially since the careful study of those very parts gave forcible evidence that this building as then existing governed, at least in effect, the later design of the transepts and choir : and so it probably also did the now destroyed work of Bishop Josceline in the construction of his chancel. From this cause the transepts, built while yet the old western bays of the first design stood, possess a simplicity and strength in the parts of their interior composition totally wanting in the later work of the nave, whose multitude of openings are destructive of contrast and that proper continuation of the masses which should be constructively formed over the points of support in the columns below. These last, even in the time of Josceline de Wells, became mere bundles of stone rods, grouped gracefully on end to support the arch orders. The vaulting shafts of nave are reduced to a sort of pendant toy, instead of supporting the weight they carry, as they do so well now in the transepts, and did in the chancel till the last alteration. In the early design single nook shafts of polished red Draycot and dark lias marble, alternately supported the orders. These were then based on a solid stone bench remaining now only to the western responds. The vaulting shafts of dark polished lias were intended to pass down to the string below the triforium at least, and may even have alternately reached the abacus to pillars of the great arcade.

On these diagrams I have humbly sought to approximate

to the original conception of Bishop Reginald's architect. (Certain items, as in the simplicity of the window openings, are in strict accord with the work of the Cathedral at Paris.)

The works at Canterbury and Glaston may assist our comparison, their dates being known. This diagram of the interior of Canterbury, 1175, presents a treatment of the marble parts precisely similar to Wells. Unfortunately no west-front exists in either case whereby to extend it. The Glastonbury work began later than 1185. That building (the most sacred of all), called the "Ancient Church," at the west end was first commenced, from which reason a sort of archaic treatment was retained, travelling afterwards through the whole church eastward.* Both at Canterbury and Glaston the tide of Norman feeling is still flowing strongly "out in the sound" of the composition, and in the zigzag ornamentation of the parts, from the necessity of copying or imitating older work. But at Wells no such demand was made, nor did any consideration for the existing Saxon church hamper the designer, whose production was therefore far in advance of both. Here older feeling is only seen in the skeleton of the west end. In the intersecting Pointed arches on the sides of the buttresses, and their somewhat abrupt terminations, and also in the general low pitch of the arches. At Paris Cathedral, as in Canterbury, it appears in the round heavy shafts of the choir and in the zigzag ornamentation of the circular windows which existed over triforium (now removed) and of the bases; and at Glaston in a way not very different. At Wells the arrangement of the

* In the matter of dates of work, it is well worth comparing the section of the tower pillars at Glaston with those at Wells, now partly hid by the St. Andrew arches, but which can easily be recovered by going up into the organ loft. There cannot be much difference in date between these two works.

masses is so strongly Norman in tone that prior to 1824 the writer of the architectural description of this Cathedral for Britton's work remarked it, and from this internal evidence alone, was led to doubt the correctness of its attribution to Bishop Josceline de Wells, suggesting instead its having been the work of Bishop Robert, who died in 1165-6. Right in suspecting an error, he however failed in its correction, unless it could be supposed that the Wells men of 1160 were so far in advance of those of Paris in 1163, of Canterbury in 1175, or even of Glaston in 1185, as to be free from all but the slightest trace of Norman influence. To prevent interference with the interior perspective the western towers were placed externally to the aisles—an unusual arrangement.

In England I have only been able to discover one other certain example, that of the west towers of St. Botolph's Priory, Colchester, of late Norman date, with intersecting arcading of round arches, formed of Roman brick.* Excepting Rouen I am not able to mention any in France.

G. E. Street, Esq., R.A., in his work on Spain, has given plans of three examples—Santiago, Leon, and Sigüenza ; from the first of these, if not from St. Botolph's, I suspect the idea of the arrangement at Wells was obtained.†

* After the paper had been read, J. H. Parker, C.B., kindly showed me some most beautiful drawings and plans of Lincoln and Peterborough Cathedrals, which had been taken for him shortly before, and on the plan of Peterborough directed my attention to the fact that prior to the Early English additions, that abbey had also western towers of Norman date, placed externally, like those of St. Botolph's, at Colchester.

† The plan of the western part of the Cathedral at Dronthiem, where the two towers are placed in the same way, is said to be a copy from Wells. If so it must have at least been made some 50 years later, as Archbishop Sigurd is supposed to have commenced the nave there about 1248. In a chapel connected with its eastern end sleeps St. Olaf, the martyr king of the Norwegians, who fell in the fight at Sticklestad, against the Pagan party.

While the treatment of the marble in the interior of Wells, as originally designed, resembled that of Canterbury,* it yet had the superior advantage of the polished red Draycot shafts contrasting with the dark lias. Of the Draycot columns we have still happily three remaining in the western responds. These, thanks to Canon Meade, were lately restored to that original polish and lustre which nearly 700 years exposure had somewhat dimmed.†

Western towers thus placed were unusual, but in this case that plan was the more readily adopted, as the tower on the south side was intended to form the great entrance porch to the Cathedral. This peculiarity arose from the fact of the three annual fairs having been held from an early period in the great cemetery and even in the church, till the services of the sanctuary of peace and truth were unheard, and overwhelmed by the roar and whirl of the more gorgeous ritual of the service of mammon. Bishop Robert had issued mandates against this abuse. Bishop Reginald found it necessary to confirm and strengthen them. He had also set apart a fresh space, the present market-place, probably then also containing the ground on which the "Nova Opera," or new work of Bishop Beckington, was afterwards erected. Opposite this spot both the original entrance and the early gate-house leading into the cloister still remain. The entrance passing

* I strongly suspect that at Canterbury it was only when the work of the French William got as high as the caps of the columns that the monks had gained the courage to use the clustered marble shafts which run up to take the vaulting, and that this change in the design produced the very rude and somewhat unsightly marble brackets above the abacus upon which the base of each clustered shaft rests.

† The fourth, that in the south aisle, of white stone, has been removed and replaced in polished Draycot, in the spring of the year 1874, at the expense of Canon Brown, Archdeacon of Bath.

from thence by the *grand door* under the south-west tower into the church ; nevertheless the slight remains of the work of the very beautiful first cloister, together with this gatehouse, was an afterthought, the architect of the west-front not intending to place his cloister so far west, and only arranging for a low wall here of which the bond stones still remain in the lower part of the present buttress and wall (this last perhaps itself of three buildings). When the works of the west-front design were abandoned, parts were left incomplete, some of the small items so remained in our day. And B. Ferrey, Esq., F.S.A., the architect for the present restoration, has most carefully had these so preserved for that very reason. Such are some of the bases and their sockets to the terminals of the small gablets on both extreme north and south angles, blocked, but neither the foliage carved nor the sockets sunk. The projecting heads to the lower large gablets of buttresses, and also the heads covering the points of junction of the top canopies were carved at a later time. The inner jambs of the west door, worked into shape when the new nave was executed, and the *old orders* on inner side of arches into the west towers intended originally to be carved, but still plain. The white lias heads terminating labels inside had been added when the completion of nave took place, as well as those terminating the exterior labels of the two west doors to aisles. Prior to the present restoration* these last were so decayed that of those to north door all trace of what they had represented was gone, and also to that on north side of south door, the slightest fragment of a very flat mitre and of the neck could be seen on that to south of this last door.

Of the exterior of the west-front (which will be much more ably described to you by Mr. Ferrey) the greater

part of the old top stories of the early towers remain built round, or rather fresh skinned, by the Perpendicular works, *said* in the case of that on south side to be of Harewell's time (?) 1366-1386 (I think it may have been built after his death), and that on the north to be erected by the executors of Bishop Bubwith after 1426.

To sum up the result, as shown on diagram No. 1, we have at the period of the cession of the west-front, the Saxon church standing, with Bishop Robert's presbytery at its east end. In advance of the west-front of this Saxon church, stands a *new west-front* of a commenced cathedral, together with its side towers, and three bays of its nave partially completed.

To the visitor entering at the west end of the nave (the portion No. 2) would be the next seen, but as the lower western arches of chancel are that part truly next in architectural order, I will proceed to take it first, and then return to No. 2 afterwards.

This part No. 3 consists of the north aisle wall of the nave up to the sills of the windows as far west as slightly beyond north porch; the south wall also for three bays west,* but in the last only up to the sill of the window; the

* Although I leave these notes unqualified here, I have no doubt whatever that the keener eyes and sharper survey of such excellent and careful observers as you have in Mr. Freeman, Mr. F. H. Dickinson, and Mr. T. Serel, each of whom has made so particular a study of the Cathedral, will even reduce still further the amount of work yet remaining, which I have here given to Bishop Josceline de Wells (perhaps more especially in the western sides of both transepts).

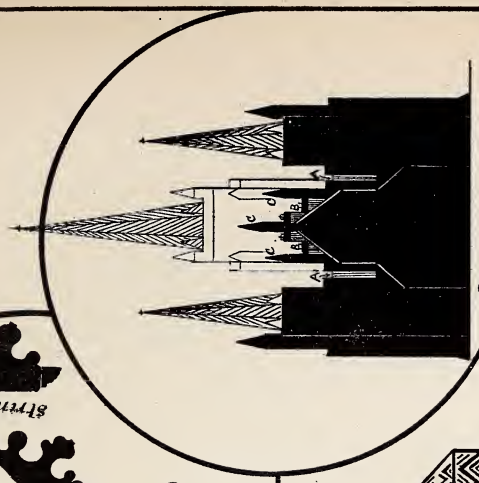
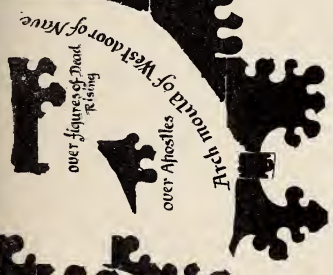
Mouldings from Lincoln Cathedral
given for the sake of comparison
1/2 Arch of Choir Arcade

FIRST DIVISION ABOUT 1182 - 1191

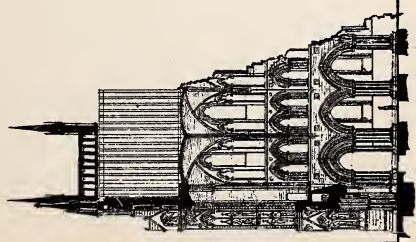
Mouldings from Lincoln Cathedral
given for the sake of comparison



Arch of West Window

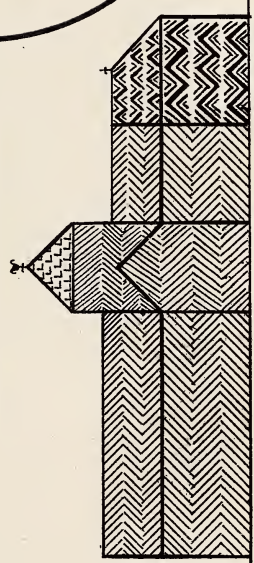


Specimens of the mouldings found on the West Front alone (or N Division)



I

Proposed Rebuilding of the Cathedral
by Bp. Reginald Fitz Joscelyn



Conjectural Saxon church

Norman Presbytery of Bp. Robert

AA } A on North side - not built
BB } parts termed "Stams"
C.C.C. Pinnacles intended to give
recover scale to central Spire

other two to the springing of its arch ; the first three bays of nave arcade, including a very small fragment on each side of one mass of clerestory wall ; the lower parts of walls of transepts as high as arcades, but not all the columns ; also the three western arches of choir with their spandrels, but no higher than the destroyed string over. The whole above-mentioned I believe may have been the work of Bishop Josceline Troteman (or de Wells), as here all evidence, not only of common tradition and history but those of actual fact, are most admirably in accord. We are told he rebuilt the Saxon church which was deformed with ruins and almost level with the ground, "for which purpose he pulled down from the presbytery all the west-end." To this effect, says Bishop Godwin, and the existing facts fairly agree and are quite reconcilable with the Bishop's words. For if the presbytery of Robert was preserved by Josceline—and we suppose for a moment the new west-front of Bishop Reginald's proposed cathedral standing in advance of the ancient structure,—Bishop Troteman must of necessity have removed the old church *inclusive* of its ancient Saxon west-front to connect the two newer and undilapidated parts.

Mr. Freeman has most kindly shown me one of his continental sketches illustrative of the same thing as it exists to the present day in the case of Wetzlar Church in Germany, where before the original west-front of the Romanesque building (intended to have been swept away when the other was finished) stands a considerable part of a new west-front of rich Perpendicular or Flamboyant date, never completed, and consequently its old neighbour is still preserved, with a tower of each building standing.

Sir H. L. Dryden when at Wells a few weeks back told me that he had a strong belief that the same thing had

taken place in the Cathedral Kirk of St. Magnus, at Kirkwall (the whole of which building he has most carefully measured and studied with the greatest care).

In a most valuable paper by J. H. Parker, C.B., on "The English origin of Gothic Architecture" in *The Archæologia*, he says: "It was very usual to build the west end and one of the western towers for the bells after the choir was completed, and to leave the nave to be built afterwards when the funds could be obtained. In many churches in France the nave has never been built, although both the choir and the west end have been finished. Cologne Cathedral is another example of the same plan. The choir and one of the western towers for the belfry were built in the 13th and 14th centuries. The nave was not built until the 19th." The Nunnery of Davington, in Kent, is an example in point of the two west towers, only one seems to have been finished.

In this Chapter-house to tell the citizens of Wells that the "Great Josceline of Wells" did very little of what they see here and attribute to him of their Cathedral, and that even that small part is marked with little elegance or dignity, or that his highest aims for his new Cathedral were quite satisfied by the simple efforts of native talent which his masons, Adam Lock, Thomas Lock, Deodatis, and Thomas Norais, &c., displayed, must, I am afraid, seem heresy of a character beyond all forgiveness. Nevertheless careful search after truth prevents me coming to any other conclusion. While the pages of the "Long Book" (belonging to the Dean and Chapter) abundantly prove that if "this man was such" as the Canons of Wells have never since seen, it was rather because he increased the quotidian from those of the Bishop himself down to those of the vicars choral and humble sacrist, than from

the exaltation of the glory of the fabric of their minster.* That he pulled down their Saxon church, I doubt not, or that he raised anew the parts tinted lake on the ground plan and sections. As we easily mark the stiff foilage and peculiar curl in every one of his capitals left, and also a good deal of his material—a “grey lias” obtained from above Chilcote (the old Saxon *Gillcoten* or *Gillcote*), together with a rough but durable white conglomerate which is found overlying it. His mouldings are marked by the addition of fillets to each side of the hollows—a peculiarity which from the preservation of his arcades in the choir, and more especially in the eastern arches of nave necessitated their retention westward in that portion built by his successors, who however adopted their own later character of mouldings in the triforium and so much of the central tower as they then erected.†

Bishop Josceline in all probability did not commence

* “Quotidians appointed by Josceline, Bishop ; John Saracen, Dean ; 1242, 16 kal. Nov. The Bishop 8^d, and 5^d for bread every day. The quotidians before being 6^d, and for bread 4^d. Before this time the Bishop used to receive, from the grange daily, 6^d, and for bread 4^d while resident in Wells, which for 365 days was £15,04,02.”

“The *quinque personæ*, the Dean, Chantor, Archdeacon of Wells, Chancellor, and Treasurer, used to receive 6^d, and two white loaves and two brown ; the other canons received 3^d, and one white and one brown loaf. The vicars, every other day, had one loaf.——But by Bishop Josceline’s settlement, the Bishop was to receive, every day he was resident in Wells, 8^d, and for bread 5^d, which for 365 days comes to £19,18,05. The five dignitaries above, called *quinque personæ*, are to receive 8^d, and for bread 4^d, which for 365 days comes to £18,05,00. The other canons 4^d, and 2^d for bread, which for 365 days is £09,02,06. The vicars were to receive a penny a day, which for 365 days is £01,10,05. Others, who used to receive quotidians, I suppose the sacrist, &c., were to receive a penny, and for bread a halfpenny, which for 365 days is £02,05,07.” From the “Long Book,” page 19.

† In Josceline’s arch moulds in chancel and nave, the rolls and hollows are always divided by the fillet. This section is not found in the triforium or above, nor yet in central *tower* arches, in all of which there is a want of fillets, and the roll often presents a sharp keel edge.

building till after 1218,* and the work was so far advanced that before 1238 a service for the soul of Peter de Cicester, Dean of the Cathedral, who died in 1236, could be performed in the Chapel of St. Kalixtus. Josceline dedicated his work in 1239 (but I do not think this fact is here of much value). He most likely did erect a chapel beyond the presbytery of Bishop Robert, but how the junction of the internal apse and external chapels was managed is a matter of much difficulty to understand, and the total removal of all below that could assist in its examination, renders the question exceedingly difficult to solve.

The whole of Josceline de Wells' work is now very fragmentary, the lower parts of the walls of his transepts (all left) being greatly cased and patched. Of his windows not one remains perfect throughout the church, but we have left the interior enclosing order of the two in the east wall of the north transept. One cap in south side of window next choir is his, the others are insertions. Parts of the bottom of each window (now built up) can be seen on careful search in the walls below. (Unless the rebuilt triplet in front of gable of north porch is the filling in of one of his windows, we have no other light to guide us.)

His second pillars from the tower in the eastern arcades of *both transepts* have been entirely rebuilt from floor to abacus. While next the tower that on the north side had only been rebuilt from about half way down, that in the south transept has been left perfect (though at a still

* King Henry III. grants, to the new works at Wells, 5 marks for twelve years, 1225 to 1237. It is worth noting that the will of Hugh II. or de Wells, Bishop of Lincoln, whereby he devised certain estates to his Brother Josceline de Wells, was made in 1233, when the works at Wells were certainly going on. (See notes to paper on Lincoln Cathedral, the paper by Rev. G. A. Poole, M.A.; notes by Rev. J. F. Dimock, read before the Lincoln Diocesan Society, and printed in reports of the Joint Diocesan Architectural Societies for 1873.)

later time having its front cap altered). Both the responds are new. This remarkable removal and rebuilding in both transepts of the farthest column *only* leads to the supposition that in each case the extreme arch opening at present may replace what before had been solid wall ; or the gables of the Saxon transepts having stood at this point and been re-used as foundations for his work, but giving way necessitated their entire renewal. No trace of the upper part of Josceline's choir remains. Parts of its aisle walls still stand : and there is reason to believe these last terminated in small square chapels. Of what connected them and covered the remains of the Norman presbytery, we have little evidence. No part of the triforium of his transepts remains. In the nave over the first pillar on the south side is a fragment of plain stone ashlar of the back and return of a pier, and a slighter trace remains directly opposite in the north triforium. These few stones give no idea of what the design was, and the whole of the mouldings on the side towards the nave are new. In the south aisle wall the stepping back to support the transept can be clearly recognised, the dividing joint line just reversing what takes place at the west end.

The recovery of the names of some of Bishop Josceline's masons we owe to T. H. Riley, Esq., who discovered among the documents of the Dean and Chapter the grant of a house to the schools by Adam Lock, mason, son of Thomas Lock, mason, and witnessed among others by Deodatis and Thomas Norais, both masons. (This house I strongly suspect was that unfortunate building now called the "Organist's House.") The similarity between the names of this Thomas Norais and that of Godfrey de Noyers (Gaufride de Noiers) the architect of St. Hugh of

Lincoln, in 1200, is somewhat remarkable, especially as St. Hugh had gone to Lincoln from Witham Friary.*

In 1242 Bishop Josceline de Wells died and was buried in the centre of his new choir in front of the high altar, it being reserved for the late restoration of the chancel to "restore" off the face of the earth altogether the last fragments of the slab containing the indent of his lost brass—a memorial which even the Cromwellian ages had respected.†

To sum up the appearance of the alterations of the church at the time of Josceline's death (diagram No. 3, but 2 in architectural date), the Saxon Cathedral had disappeared entirely, but Bishop Robert's Norman presbytery or apse probably still stood. Westward of which Josceline had built a new choir of three bays (the square east end of which reduced the presbytery to a sort of vestry, as seen still at Malvern Abbey); he had also added a central tower, transepts with aisles on both sides, and three bays of a nave, as well as a long low length of north aisle wall fencing in the rest of the intended nave. But a large void

* Among the documents of the town of Wells is one which bears the seal of Robert Noreys, possibly the grand-son of Bishop Josceline's mason of that name.

† "Jocelinus Sepultus in medio Chori ecel : Wellen: tumba alta cum imagi : ærea." Leland's Itin : vol. 3, page 107, fol. 89.

On January 22nd, 1874, in laying down larger gas pipes, for supplying the lights in the chancel, the stone coffin of Bishop Josceline was exposed, where (as it will be seen on the plan) literally it could not be better described than is done by Leland, the top of Josceline's square east wall having been also seen at the same time. The total removal of this last above ground, and the considerable extension of the present chancel eastward, had led to the idea of this "centre," where the remains of the Bishop lay, being just west of the present throne. The full account of the discovery may be seen in a letter by your member, Mr. T. Serel, which appeared in the *Bath Chronicle and Weekly News* of that date. The inscription, previously cut by order of Canon Bernard, now marks the spot where the coffin lies.

THIRD: DIVISION 1218 - 1242

CB Josefine's caps preserved in Choir
N. caps all date of Nave work

Joze Lines, east wall

□ Tomb of Isoseline

Respond westend North Aisle. Nauc
i Division.

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 ۴۹

A. B.
Ancient Red
Draicote marble
Shaf's still perfect

to the Capitals

Arch mouldings of the
adopted and continued
the death of
Dr. Button the 22^d
the worth of Dr. J. Joseline de Trells
continued in the way
proceeds after

Plan of Pillars

of the death of
B^y Josceline de Wells
adopted and continued
in that credit after the
death of B^y Button the 2nd

iii

•

A. stone coffin containing the remains of Bp. Josceline de Wells
B. east wall of Bp. Josceline de Wells' new choir (square end)
of Bp. Josceline de Wells' work only the dark hatched part remaining

James Thos. Irvine

space intervened between his new work and the west-front, built possibly by Bishop Reginald Fitz Josceline.

After the death of Josceline, in 1242, there was a short vacancy. The Bath monks then elected Roger, Precentor of Sarum, who was ineffectually objected to by the Chapter of Wells. In 1246 the church was in debt to the Roman lawyers, 1765 marks—tolerable evidence that British oysters had not lost their interest in Roman eyes, albeit they were not the same sort as of yore. All this time the works had been slowly going on, for the very year in which Bishop Roger died, 1247-1248, an earthquake threw down the stone vault or spire. The new Bishop, William Button (1st), was abroad in 1258, and after his return he was engaged in a struggle—the first of the great insurrections made by the Dean and Chapter against the See. He died in 1264-5, and was buried “in the new Chapel of the Virgin.” His successor sat only about a year and a half and was followed by the second William Button, called the “saint,” in 1267. I shall now return to the second division to the visitor, but truly the third in architectural date. The “multitudes of miracles” said to have taken place at the grave of Bishop Button, the saint, were at least followed by that multitude of solid offerings, which went far to raise the present edifice. He died in 1274 and about 1284 a convocation was called to procure contributions to the new building and grant a tenth for the repair of the old work. Even so early as 1266 John of Axbridge, sub-dean, had founded an obit at the altar of St. Mary Magdalene in the north aisle of the choir. In 1268 Galfre de Briddeport founded an obit to the souls of his parents in the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin, made in the south part of the Cathedral. Bishop William (the saint) himself leaves money to support two lamps “behind the great

altar" of the building,* but his principal obit was erected in the Chapel of our Lady in the Cloisters (first heard of by that name in 1260) by John Button, the provost, who had built the altar of St. Michael in that chapel, at which *very altar* he orders the service to take place. Thomas Button (late dean) when Bishop of Exeter (1293 to 1307) gave *pro anima* of Bishop William Button the great bell in the tower. Strong evidence of the date of the erection of this new work is seen in the carved caps of the west arcade of both transepts, where heads displaying various stages of the toothache are introduced. One shows the agony the sufferer is in, another points to the fact that it has only left him one tooth, another points to that tooth in which the pain is, &c. Now although not prepared to say that a sculptor would never otherwise have selected such subjects, yet I do think that in the building St. Button's peculiar property here was supposed to be the ability to cure this disease. If the work was erected by gifts at his shrine, and therefore after his death in 1274, it became a fit and appropriate field to select subjects from, and thus far helps to fix the age of this part of the fabric. Although he is said to have divided with the dentists the removal of this disease down far into the 17th century, yet in the first stage and the want of a fine field for advertisements, it must have required some few years to impress the public with the full advantage to be derived from a trip to Wells.

* In the settlement of Bishop Button's chantry, in 1279, mention is made both of the Chapel of St. Mary, in the Cloisters, and also of St. Marie's Chapel, behind the high altar and—money is assigned—"Ad sustentandi duos cereos in Capella bte Virginis assignetur." Dated 1279. (Thomas de Button and Roger de Crukern, his Executors.)

1284. "Convocao de Contributor ad Ecciam qua in novâ structurâ per ficienda et antiquâ reparandâ indijet repatoe Decimæ Præbendarum." P. 198, small Liber Albus.

Therefore the convocation about repairs and building in 1284 would fairly agree, even supposing the actual works had begun somewhat earlier.

Other carvings in the south transepts may assist us. A figure is there seen turning up his foot from which he extracts a "burr" or thorn—possibly a play on the name of Bishop Button's successor, Bishop *Burnell* (1275 to 1292), or on that of Dean William *Burnell* (prebend of St. David's), who following Dean Thomas Button, sat from 1292 to 1295. The rebuilding partly with old materials of the north porch seems also to harmonize, for on the eastern caps of the external arch are sculptured scenes from the history of St. Edmund, King of the East Angles, the name saint possibly of Edward of Knolle, dean from 1256 to 1284; and on each side of the door from this porch to the church, are the figures of a dean* and bishop intended, I think, for the very Thomas Button, who was dean after this Edward of Knolle, from 1284 to 1292, in which year he became Bishop of Exeter, and so represented here on the right side of arch. It is worthy of remark that to the little Church of Tugford in Corvedale, Salop, there is a door very much humbler in scale and ornamentation, but resembling closely in details the outer arch of this porch.

An item which may have to do with the roofing of this new work appears in the records of the Parliament at Northampton, 29 Edward I. (1300-1301). The warden of the Forest of Dean is to deliver to Peter de Insula,

* The figure of the Dean bears a staff, and holds a label, partly destroyed, but still retaining the letters—

✠ INT̃ : INGAVD * * * * II : TVI

which Archdeacon Freeman, of Exeter, translated as—"Enter into the joy of thy Lord." Could it refer to the late Dean being then Bishop?

Archdeacon of Wells, 10 oaks, and an equal number to Philip Martel. De Insula (or de Lisle) was archdeacon, at least in 1296-1301, and although I have not yet found the name of Philip Martel at the Cathedral, John de Martel or Marsel, as a canon, appears in 1319, 1327, 1330, and his chantry was founded at the altar of St. Catharine in 1341.

As Josceline's Cathedral had little beyond a choir and transepts available for use, unusual doors at the ends of the eastern aisles of transepts had been found necessary. Of these, the north was afterwards continued as an entrance to the stairs to the new Chapter House. The other in the Chapel of St. Martin, now the Canons' Vestry, is blocked by the monument of John Storthwaite, precentor, who died shortly after 1451. On both sides the exterior label moulds, covering most likely wooden porches, are perfect.

The building of the nave and rebuilding of the transepts had so far advanced that, in 1297, it became necessary to issue orders regulating the opening and shutting of these doors, including also the great entrance door from the western Cloister below the south-west tower—evidence fairly conclusive of the ability to make use of the newly completed nave.

A somewhat similar idea to these peculiarly placed transept doors is found at Drontheim Cathedral in the angles between transepts and choir (other remarkable agreements in intention govern the group of Cathedrals composed of Wells, St. David's, Wales; St. Magnus, Kirkwall; and that at Drontheim).

The use of entry obtained under the south-west tower is followed by the result that, in 1300, William de Wellington founds a chantry at the altar of St. Crucis, under the same tower (he having founded another at another altar

of St. Crucis near the door to the Chapter House, in 1299 and in 1305-6). Two new altars are mentioned at the door of the choir, one to St. Andrew on the south, and one to the Virgin on the north (in front of which the indent of a fine brass to a lady is still seen).

In 1248, as before-mentioned, by reason of an earthquake, the "Tholus," a vault or spire, fell. Mr. Freeman says it is recorded to have done more damage to the caps than the bases. As the further pair of Joceline's columns in the choir still retain their caps, while the next seem to have been recarved, I am led to think that the Rev. Prebendary Scarth's view is correct and that it was the hollow stone spire of the central tower that fell, rather than the vault of the choir; for of Josceline's tower scarcely any fragments of the eastern piers are left, and of the western a good deal of what seems to be his work has been rebuilt with the old materials. Probably some time elapsed before they summoned courage to again proceed with the repairs. On the diagram, the dark pink marks the portion of Bishop Josceline's building preserved and re-used in the new work. This rebuilding probably began in the south transept, where at the base of the eastern respond their foundation-stone may still I think be seen with its crosses. These were full of mortar until I cleaned them out with my knife. Reconstructing entirely this and the next column they preserved the pillar, abacus inclusive, next to the tower of Josceline's building (but its front cap at a still later period has been renewed). Inserted in the spandril over is a curious small grey lias stone. At first sight I had hoped this bore an inscription, but found it perfectly plain. In the north transept a portion only of the first pier was preserved, and the other, as before-mentioned, entirely rebuilt together with the respond.

The erection of the transepts arose till overflowing the remains of Josceline's choir arcades, and giving them a new triforium and clerestory they then produced a fresh apse to match. Remains of the starting of whose circular walls are seen over the present choir vault. Considerable remains of the large pinnacle standing at the connecting point of the curved apse and straight wall can be seen behind the present triforium wall on north side of choir, enough of its plinth mould remains to show that the triforium passed quite round it. On the exterior the lines are quite perfect of the arches of clerestory windows of this period. The jambs and the vaulting shafts next tower wall remain precisely similar to those in the transepts. The marks of the first triforium arch on each side can be seen, while on the back side of walls they are perfectly preserved on both sides, although built up when the inside was recast.

The central tower, when totally rebuilt from the ground, had been designed for vaulting, and the wall ribs remain at present below the line of the Perpendicular vault. Building to this height necessitated the erection of a portion of the triforium and clerestory wall of nave sufficient to resist the thrust of the great transept arches, and in doing this the very slight fragments of Josceline's triforium masonry were preserved (as before-mentioned). The part then erected is marked by the preservation of three of the circular bosses of foliage of earlier carving than the rest—two above the north triforium arches and one on the south side, the rest having been removed or hidden when the second repair (or perpendicular needling) of the central tower took place. These early bosses, I confess, I took to be remains of Josceline's work until a careful inspection in front con-

vinced me that they were of a later time and period. Having finished these eastern portions they then turned their faces westward, boldly advanced, and after two or three efforts succeeded in filling up the open space which had divided them from "the work so long begun" at the west end, joining their work to it. To do which in a respectable manner they were obliged to remove (unfortunately for posterity and Wells) the three west bays (partly built) of the more costly and loftier design. The western span-drills, at present of large stones, are probably composed of the courses of the pillars and old work pulled down. The size of the courses agree fairly with those used in the early work. The returns of the upper marble strings bonding the *detached shafts* of the west window jambs were allowed to remain, but during the Perpendicular additions, removed and replaced by solid attached stone ones to obtain additional strength. The outline of the original nave vault was not intended to be so pointed as it is at present, the springing lines are therefore lowered, but the exterior heights of roofs and walls were fixed of necessity by the old west wall. The flying buttresses, omitted at first, were now built, and in the western sides of the north and south transepts it can be distinctly seen that the rough stone plastered wall had stood exposed until part of the plaster had scaled off, over which the guide lines for the position of the buttress had then been drawn on the wall, and consequently the point used to make the the line had marked the plaster, the scaled off surface, and the exposed stone also.

Flushed with successfully completing the nave they then would be satisfied with nothing less than possessing an open lantern over the *crux*. Abandoning the vault and disregarding the rough masonry wall prepared for

it to butt against. From the floor above, which they kept as it was, they commenced afresh an open lantern tower, richly arcaded, in the interior of which one stage, and rather more than half the next, was completed, when from some cause the whole erection came to a stand still. A temporary roof was put on, and it was left to be seen from the floor of the Cathedral. The work now stood so long that all the masons employed (more than 40 in number) whose "banker marks" had given me the greatest assistance in tracing the continuity of the work in transepts, nave, choir, and triforium, &c., having with the greatest regularity followed us from the pillars of nave and aisle wall in cloister up to this joint in the second arcade of the lantern, at *once* cease and are no more seen. When the work again recommenced they are replaced by the totally fresh marks of the new workmen. A changed character appears also in the sections of the mouldings. During the time this delay took place the unfinished lantern, seen from below, was to the height now built, decorated in a very curious manner. Having no windows in its own walls, and only obtaining reflected light from beneath, or from openings in a rudely gabled roof, and therefore dark. Instead of the red lining into stones, the usual decoration of the time, (fragments of which may yet be seen in the Chapel of St. Martin now the Canons' Vestry), it was formed of *white* lines on a cream-tinted ground—a very good plan, and one I do not remember elsewhere, thus enabling it to be seen from the Cathedral floor. When the works again *commenced* a fresh design (*though not one of equal merit*) was adopted, the lantern scheme being retained.

New York orders inserted in archives to Western Javers these articles are of a period later than 1946 but from adopting the section of Josselyn's arch moulds they were obliged to continue the same here which (they) would not cover the whole width.

Mouldings of the Second division
in the unfinished upper strata:

of the intended mis-
open lantern.

*Mouldings of
Tower Piers
when rebuilt after*

the fall of
1246

Marble abacus
Mountings of
western residents of
Josceline de Wells'
choir Arcades

Second Division

Line of Face

NORMAN
B. Robert

I Division

B^h: Reginald Pitt Josceline
(?)

Created by the 11 DIVISION
donations at the
omb of Bfr. Balton the 2nd

iii Division

masons bunker
marks 2nd Division

I * II * III * IV * V *
 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 560. 561. 562. 563. 564. 565. 566. 567. 568. 569. 570. 571. 572. 573. 574. 575. 576. 577. 578. 579. 580. 581. 582. 583. 584. 585. 586. 587. 588. 589. 590. 591. 592. 593. 594. 595. 596. 597. 598. 599. 600. 601. 602. 603. 604. 605. 606. 607. 608. 609. 610. 611. 612. 613. 614. 615. 616. 617. 618. 619. 620. 621. 622. 623. 624. 625. 626. 627. 628. 629. 630. 631. 632. 633. 634. 635. 636. 637. 638. 639. 640. 641. 642. 643. 644. 645. 646. 647. 648. 649. 650. 651. 652. 653. 654. 655. 656. 657. 658. 659. 660. 661. 662. 663. 664. 665. 666. 667. 668. 669. 670. 671. 672. 673. 674. 675. 676. 677. 678. 679. 680. 681. 682. 683. 684. 685. 686. 687. 688. 689. 690. 691. 692. 693. 694. 695. 696. 697. 698. 699. 700. 701. 702. 703. 704. 705. 706. 707. 708. 709. 710. 711. 712. 713. 714. 715. 716. 717. 718. 719. 720. 721. 722. 723. 724. 725. 726. 727. 728. 729. 730. 731. 732. 733. 734. 735. 736. 737. 738. 739. 740. 741. 742. 743. 744. 745. 746. 747. 748. 749. 750. 751. 752. 753. 754. 755. 756. 757. 758. 759. 760. 761. 762. 763. 764. 765. 766. 767. 768. 769. 770. 771. 772. 773. 774. 775. 776. 777. 778. 779. 780. 781. 782. 783. 784. 785. 786. 787. 788. 789. 790. 791. 792. 793. 794. 795. 796. 797. 798. 799. 800. 801. 802. 803. 804. 805. 806. 807. 808. 809. 810. 811. 812. 813. 814. 815. 816. 817. 818. 819. 820. 821. 822. 823. 824. 825. 826. 827. 828. 829. 830. 831. 832. 833. 834. 835. 836. 837.

A Stone coffin of Bl^{le} Josefine de Melles East wall of choir of this Chancel

Bh: Josceline de Wells

To sum up the result as shown on diagram No. 2 (but third in architectural date) we have of Bishop Robert's presbytery, (if anything) only the lower arches left. Of Bishop Josceline's work merely the three choir arches and parts of their aisle walls ; the lower parts of transept walls and portions of the pillars ; the three eastern arches of the nave and slight traces of triforium masonry ; part of north aisle wall up to window sills, and a small part of that of south aisle. His central tower is utterly removed down to the floor. Bishop Reginald Fitz Joceline's west end and its towers remain, but his internal arcade is gone, and most of his north aisle wall recased. (It is a question if his architect may not have intended to gable his aisle walls to each two bays, if so this idea was also abandoned.)

The new building at this time became all the upper part of choir and its apse, both triforium and clerestory, nearly the whole nave and most of the transepts, the central tower from the very ground up to a short way above the apex of nave and chancel roofs. They had also begun the exterior wall of the undercroft to the new Chapter House, and the passage to it from the choir aisle. This, however, was after the *whole* of the rest had been completed (a second effort in that case completed the present stairs to a Chapter House, which remarkable to relate was shortly afterwards pulled down to build the present (or third) one.

Proceeding now with the fourth part, the next great commencement began with the extension of the east end

and completion of the central tower.* Small works were however going on before, for in 1305 a chantry is founded for Dean Henry Huse, at the altar of the Crucifixion at the south part of the entrance to the choir. On examination I found the crucifix still remaining perfect in the glass of the window whose stonework had no doubt shortly before been inserted. In 1311 William Yatton, subdean, had a service behind the high altar, and in the same year in the will of Richard de Chepmanslade there is also mention of the light of the Blessed Mary behind the high altar.

In the new exterior of the eastern end a portion was built every year leaving inside the old eastern chapels for use as long as possible. The joints mark the portions of every fresh year, and a distinct change took place above the sills of the east windows of choir aisles. The side windows having the early section, the first appearance of the broad casement moulding of the Perpendicular style taking place in the east windows of the side aisles, and passing round those of the Lady Chapel. In 1325 Dean Goodeley orders the ruinous stalls to be remade, and each prebend is ordered to be at the cost of his own. Some of these have the *misererie* carvings only commenced, and still remaining unfinished. Before the death of Bishop

* Campanile Ecclesiæ Wellensis. Decima quinque annalis pro constructione ejusdem Reg 1, 143, Anno 1317.

New campanile building, 1318, during the time of Bishop Drokenford, 1309 to 1325. In a general chapter, held 18th May, 1318, among other acts then decreed, this was one—"Item cum magna pecunia proveniat diversi modi tam de decimis quā oblationibus Sti. Willelmi sequestris et Fraternitatibus Sti. Andriæ ad fabricam Ecclesiæ et Campaniliam foret utile quod inde fieret Ratiocinium modo debito per Receptores Pecuniæ antedictæ per aliquos. Canonicos per Capitulu deputandos Responsio Deputentur Duo Canonici ad audiendū computu singulorū Receptorū oblationes Sti. Willelmi." Old MS. belonging to Mr. T. Serel.

Drokensford, in 1329, the eastern extension had so far advanced that he could be interred in the Chapel of St. Catharine.* In 1332 the great Dean Goodeley died ; he had undoubtedly been the prime actor in these last extensions of the fabric, as well as the victorious leader in the last final and successful rising of the Chapter against the See. The work would not appear to have been completed when he died, for in 1337, the Chapter took into consideration the means whereby to raise the sum of £200 to pay off the debt incurred in restoring a great part of the fabric. There is a document dated in 1337 (preserved among the Chapter documents) a bond to Dean Charletone for £20 lent by him to the Chapter to be expended on the building. This looks like some matter of considerable moment requiring instant attention. In 1338 the church is described as much fractured and requiring to be repaired, and, in 1339, there is an imposition of a tenth to raise £300 for repairing the Church of St. Andrew. Ralph of Salop had become Bishop of the See in 1329, and his decease took place in 1363. Mr. Freeman (in that most valuable little volume of his which should

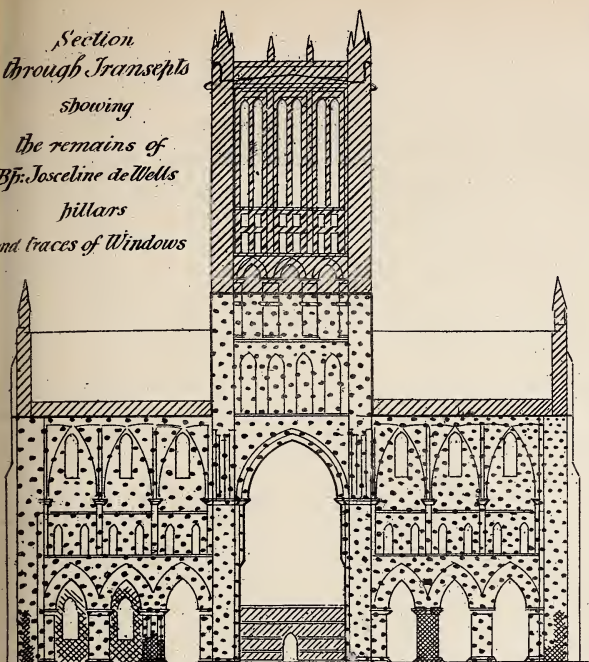
* To the efforts of Canon Bernard we owe the discovery that the tomb, in front of the south choir transept, must unquestionably be that of Bishop Drokensford, as one result of his researches was the discovery of a document, by which Philip de Drokensford, of Oakhampton, (son and heir of Philip de Drokensford), and nephew of the Bishop, grants lands to Dean John de Godelee and Hamelino de Godelee, his brother, to this document, nearly perfect, is preserved the seal of *PHILIPPI D. DROK'NEIS * * * bearing a shield, quartered with the chess rooks (precisely as on tomb), and with a label of three points over. Round the tomb are repeated these two shields in nearly every panel. 1st, a shield bearing Drokensford, quarterly or and az., four rooks' heads coupé two and two, addorsed and counterchanged. The other shield or, six ermine spots, 3, 2, 1 sa : on a chief gu. two stags' heads cabossed, a label of three points for difference. The arms of Drokensford seem to be a play on the name.

be in the hands of all who wish to understand Wells aright) has well suggested that his place of sepulture in front of the high altar (the communion space at present) decidedly marks him as one of the founders. He who built so much of the close* could scarcely be unconnected with the works going on in his Cathedral. In the Lady Chapel at east end the name of its builder had been placed in the stained glass, but is now lost.

When the *new* upper portion of the central tower had been commenced it was from quite a fresh design, the result of which was that the uncompleted arcade was reduced in height, over which a lofty stage of three square-headed panels (each containing two long pointed but uncusped openings) formed the exterior design of each side. The whole of this work is meagre in the extreme. Under the present modern roof of the central tower, are still seen traces of the points where the beams rested (the corbels to support the curved braces still remain) dividing the flat roof into a series of square-moulded panels, open to view from the floor of the church. This weak design could not have existed long. A fresh idea entered the minds of the Chapter. They resolving to change the upper part into a belfry, divided it off by a wooden floor still remaining (and yet retain a portion of the light). For this purpose a set of massive square-headed stone window frames of two lights, strengthened by a transome, were inserted over the second arcade in the base of the long openings, forming the inner thickness of the double

* Of the houses of the Vicar's Close, most of the parts of red stone, the projections of chimneys, and many of the jambs of windows, although not the tracery, is of his work. The transformation, by Bishop Beckington's executors, too often causes the considerable amount of early work to be overlooked and disregarded.

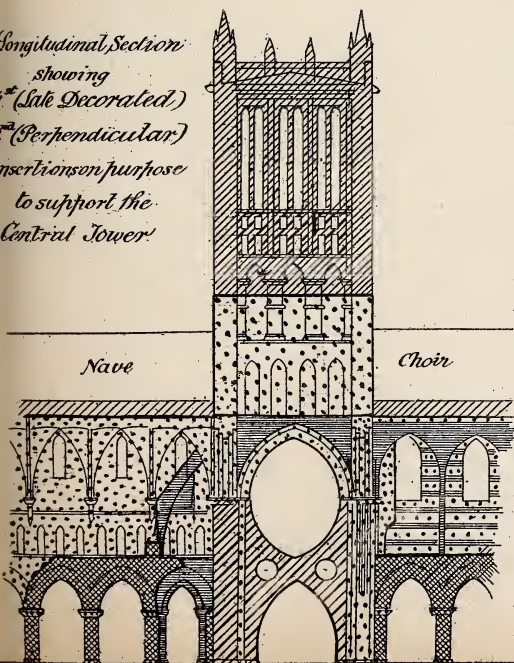
Section
Through Transepts
showing
the remains of
Bp. Josceline de Wells
pillars
and traces of Windows



Elevation of that part of East-
wall of North west Tower at the
point of junction with the
wall of Nave-aisle showing
the insertion of its bending
stones into the Tower wall
Note also the extent to which
Stone B was cut away to receive
the new stone into it

A old roof weathering

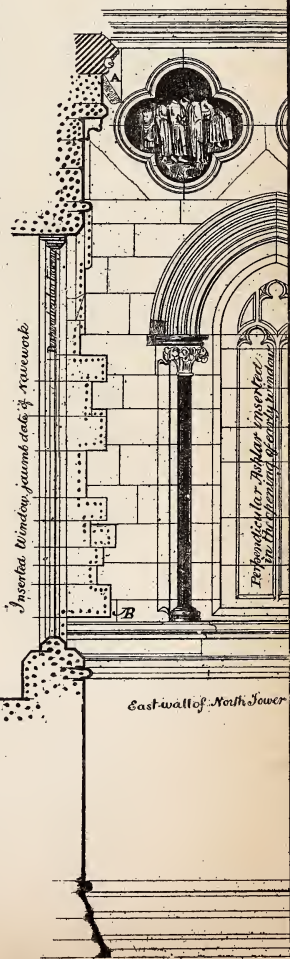
Longitudinal Section
showing
1st (Late Decorated)
2nd (Perpendicular)
insertions on purpose
to support the
Central Tower



Nave

Choir

Insertion Window jamb date of nave work



East wall of North Tower

James Thos. Irvine

wall of the tower (built thus to save weight). On the top lintels of these stone window frames the beams of the new floor for the bell-framing rested. The wood of this bell-framing seems, from what I can learn, to have been sawn up for other uses and sold not many years ago. The floor in *the tower* still remains in its place.

This change into a belfry did not answer constructively, the tower walls rent, and the danger became so great that it was necessary to shore up the great arches below with strong timber, marks of which are now seen in the west arch. They then built as permanent shores the St. Andrew arches across the north, south, and west openings. It is possible that Dean Charlton's bond in 1337 may be connected with this. The strutting of the tower arches was effectual for the time, but at a later date the insertion, I think, of the present Perpendicular vault made it necessary to needle the tower by stone flying arches cut into the thickness of the walls at the north-west and south-west angles, filling up also solid, part of the triforium openings and necessitating new ashlar for the spandrils of the arcades of the nave, they also inserted Perpendicular arches under the two first openings of nave arcade, and of those arches leading from nave aisles into transepts. From the loss of the Fabric Rolls I am unable to say when the bells were first removed into the western towers, but we may fairly place it after Harewell's time. The openings for sound in the central tower being no longer wanted (the light being cut off by the Perpendicular vault), were then filled in with the Perpendicular panelling, which so strengthens the design at present. The lower parts indeed even seem to have been before treated in this way. The pinnacles of the tower were also recast. The Decorated main centre

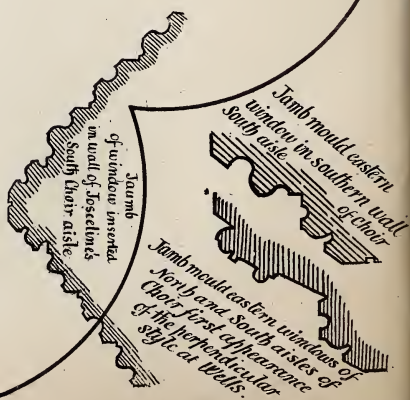
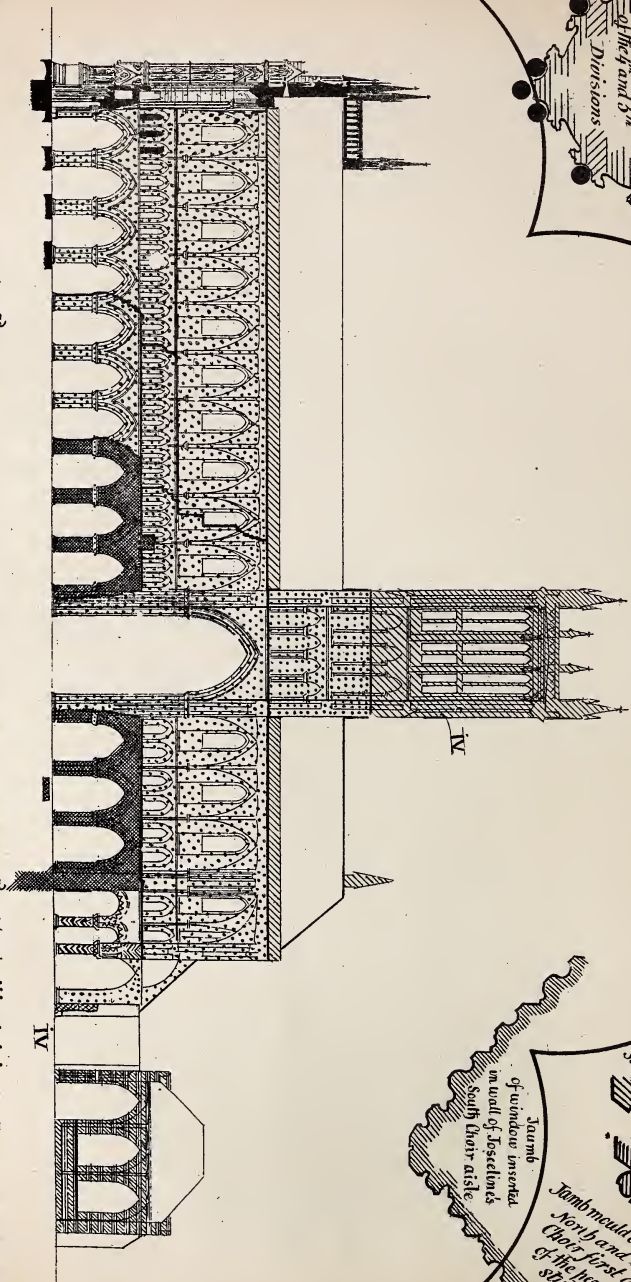
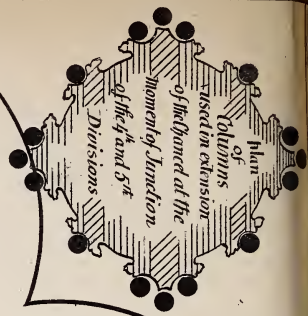
spires in each case were preserved, the surrounding small ones and those in the sides changed to Perpendicular, and the niches and figures added (possibly by Bishop Bubwith's executors).

During the time of the erection of the central part of the nave (about 1280-1297) the figures in the west-front were being gradually executed and placed, commencing in the centre and working to the sides,* and then gradually downwards.† From the change in the treatment of the drapery lines it is evident a considerable time was required to complete the whole, and it was most likely not till the period of the erection of the top of the central tower and the eastern chapels that those of the coronation

* Mr. B. Ferrey, when making the survey of the west-front, discovered on the groups of figures in the resurrection tier the Arabic numerals which are found on all those on north side of the centre line of the front. But Roman numerals are found on all those on south side of centre line.

† The famous angel choir at Lincoln was executed about the same date. Commenced by Bishop Lexington, about 1256, it had been finished by Bishop Oliver Sutton in 1280. It is remarkable to see how the idea of the exterior buttresses at the east-end are obtained from Wells. A diagram of each was hung up when these notes were read.

The seal of the "Church of Wells" bears on it the figure of an Archbishop—I suspect St. Thomas of Canterbury). This is found, *seal* and *counter seal*, to have been used to the certificate of the election of Bishop William Button, in 1247. One half at least was used down to the year 1539, and is engraved in the new edition of the *Monasticon*. (Bishop Savaric mentions that he had got the seal of the Church of Wells as well as his own appended to his grant to Wells City, but unfortunately that seal has crumbled to powder.) On the breast of the dress of the Archbishop is a curious trefoil ornament. This same ornament is found on the dress of one of the figures intended to represent Saxon bishops, which originally lay over the bones, removed and placed by Josceline(?) between the pillars of his choir arches. Moved again, when lately the chancel was restored, this one had remained in the under-croft till Canon Bernard had it and another placed as near as could now possibly be done, to where some lay before, under the south arcade. Which of the early bishops these were intended to represent is not known.



Ist Division (Bf. Reginald Fitz-Josephine?)

IInd DIVISION Erected by funds obtained as donations at the tomb of Bf. Baulon the 2nd (or 3rd)

IIIrd DIVISION Bf. Josephine de Wells

IVth DIVISION Completion of the upper part of central lantern to a fresh design after 1300 and commencement of extension of eastern end of choir and first appearance of the perpendicular style

See: Choe: Ixviii



The change to Perpendicular shown thus



of the Virgin (the latest of the whole) were placed over the central door. From some reason the central pinnacle on the west-front was placed at this time, being similar in date to those on the parapet of the present (or third) Chapter House.*

The result of the fourth alteration may be summed up in the facts that—Reginald Fitz Josceline's west-front stands, but has now received the addition of the figures up to the great marble string over the resurrection tier. Of Josceline de Wells' work the arches (only) of the choir remain, some in nave, and slight fragments of the transepts. Of the third work, the new nave, chancel and transepts stand, to which has now been added the fourth work; the upper part of central tower; the eastern and Lady Chapels.

In the centre of these eastern chapels stood probably that so-called of St. Mary de Jusyan, and perhaps that

* To see fairly the remarkable care with which these restorations are done one must mount to the lead roof of the room over the Chapter House, and note where the rebuilding of the parapets and pinnacles, &c., of north transept, and the repairs below the corbel table can to the present day be distinctly noted—almost every stone by their different colours; and the evidence of the pinnacle at junction of apse having existed, till removed for the extension of choir, will be seen by the unperforated piece of new parapet which comes up to it as at angle of tower and to pinnacle of transept. Some even more remarkable lettings in of stones, and reductions of them to the proper face, may be seen by crawling in under roof of Chapter House stairs over the vault from triforium of the transept, through the opening below the north window (over which the old tomb slab is used as a lintel). (Some curious working drawings remain on the east as well as on the wall of west sides of this transept.

of the Stable of Christ,* if this last was not in one of the recesses on the west side of the passage to the undercroft of the Chapter House.

The fifth division will not delay us long, being only the upper part over the three eastern bays of choir, the last of the great changes which left the Church of St. Andrew as we now see it. For this the apse of the third work, with its triforium and clerestory, was removed, destroying the great pinnacle on the south, and most of that on the north side. They erected a new square end, three arches farther east, and an unusual triforium (if it may be so termed), with a clerestory having windows of three lights; afterwards re-casting the rest of the second work of the choir westward over Josceline's three arches, changing only the front of the wall, and building up the triforium rear arches (of the date of new nave), this work being before, in design, precisely similar to that of the present transepts.

* "From the valuation of the Archdeaconry of Wells taken from the First Fruits Office when Polydore Virgil was Archdeacon :—

| | |
|--|------------------|
| In Annuali pensione Soluta Communario ecclesiæ Wellen
versus sustentationem iij Capellanorum Celebrantium
pro animabus Willelmi Button et Willelmi Button
quondam epis. coporum Wellen | 10,,00,,00 |
| Annualis pensio soluta prætato Communaris ratione ap-
propriatarum ecclesiarum de Doultynge et Est Brent ... | 01,,06,,08 |
| <i>Annualis pensio soluta Thesaurario dicta ecclesiæ pro certis
cereis sustentandis in Scabello Crucifixi</i> | 01,,06,,08 |
| Cuidam vicario choralis celebranti ad altare Sancti Calixti
in dicta ecclesiæ pro anima Petri de Cicestria annualum
ex ordinatione | 01,,15,,00 |
| Solutio pro Obitu Petri de Cicestria in Choro inter minis-
tros dictæ ecclesiæ ex ordinatione | 00,,10,,00 |
| Annualis Solutio Vicario Choralis præbendæ de Hewish et
Brent pro stallo choralis ejusdam præbendæ annuatim
Et pro feodo. Johannis Eye receptoris dicti archidia-
conatus per annum Willi priest senesichalli ibidem
cu pro feodo | 02,,00,,00 |
| Solutio alio Vicario Choralis ex ordinatione | 00,,15,,00 |
| | <hr/> 19,,13,,04 |

The single lancets of clerestory were altered to three lights, to be somewhat in harmony with their own. This work must have been rather a continuance than separate from the building of the Lady Chapel, the Perpendicular style first dimly seen in it and in east windows of choir aisles becoming here more marked. No doubt the old eastern chapels had been preserved as long as possible; and the whole of the columns in the eastern part of the church were therefore built last. The remarkable fragment of wall now doing duty as a reredos to the communion space, looks as if it had been part of the west wall of these old chapels. If so, there may have been an open space behind the early apse, as existed at one time at St. David's Cathedral.

Mention is made of the Chapel of St. Salvator in the angle of the choir, and of a pix of St. Michael in the angle of the presbytery. In 1381, William de Odcombe gives a great figure of St. Peter for the choir; (it is said to be on the right side of the tomb of Bishop Ralph, of Shrewsbury, where he has an obit). This gives us some idea of the time before which this extension of the choir had taken place. In 1381 the Chapter obtained a grant of a quarry on the glebe, at Doultling, in the fields named "East Hay Farling" and "Chenelynych" (still known by the names of Hayfurlong and Chillinge). I am sorry to say the stone used at the Cathedral since that time has never stood so well as what they had obtained before. I have not been able to discover with certainty, however, where the former was obtained.

There were reredoses to the backs of all these altars, the fate of some are told by the Fabric Roll for 1550, which states that the tabernacle work to those next the altar in choir were sold to the Lord Suffragan of Wells for 9s. I have not been able to discover who was Suffragan

Bishop in that year. A William Finch was so in 1538, Rector of West Camel, in May 8, 1544, and a Prebendary of Wells (of that name, I think, was of the number), January 6, 1577.* No sure evidence of any vaulting of the chancel can be found until the erection of the present Perpendicular-pointed waggon groining, at which time the front shafts of choir arches received alteration all the way to the floor, as may be seen by a glance at the carved caps. At this time the flying buttresses were added, consequently the stumps of their terminal pinnacles (now lost) are more Perpendicular than the walls they butt against.

The result of the building of the 5th division was to fill up the great gap before existing between the present Lady Chapel and that point where the old circular or octagonal apse (the work of the date of new nave) had ended the former Cathedral, and produce the present length and proportion of the building. Other later alterations, but not of such consequence, took place. The introduction of Perpendicular tracery into all the windows, the vaulting of the choir and its aisles; the building of the upper part of west towers, and the addition at the same time of all those figures above the great marble string at top of the west-front. The whole having little effect on the general mass, with the one great exception of the addition to west towers. These last not having received the intended leaden spires fail to produce the result they eventually will when sooner or later they are erected.

* "William Finch is no doubt the man. He was consecrated *Suffragan Bishop of Taunton* Apl. 7, 1538, and died 1559. He was one of the Suffragans created by virtue of the Act 26 Hen. viij. c. 14. I think your rector and prebendary may be the same, but if so the date of latter must be wrong. See Stubb's Reg. Sac." Information kindly obtained from Rev. Wm. Hunt.

FIFTH: DIVISION ABOUT 1340-1380

1st Division (Reginald Fitz Joceline?) ■

3rd Division Bp Joceline de Wells ▨

4th Division 1300 - 1330 & ▩

Introduction of Bells into central

lantern and first stone shores

to central Tower-hiers ▨▨▨▨▨

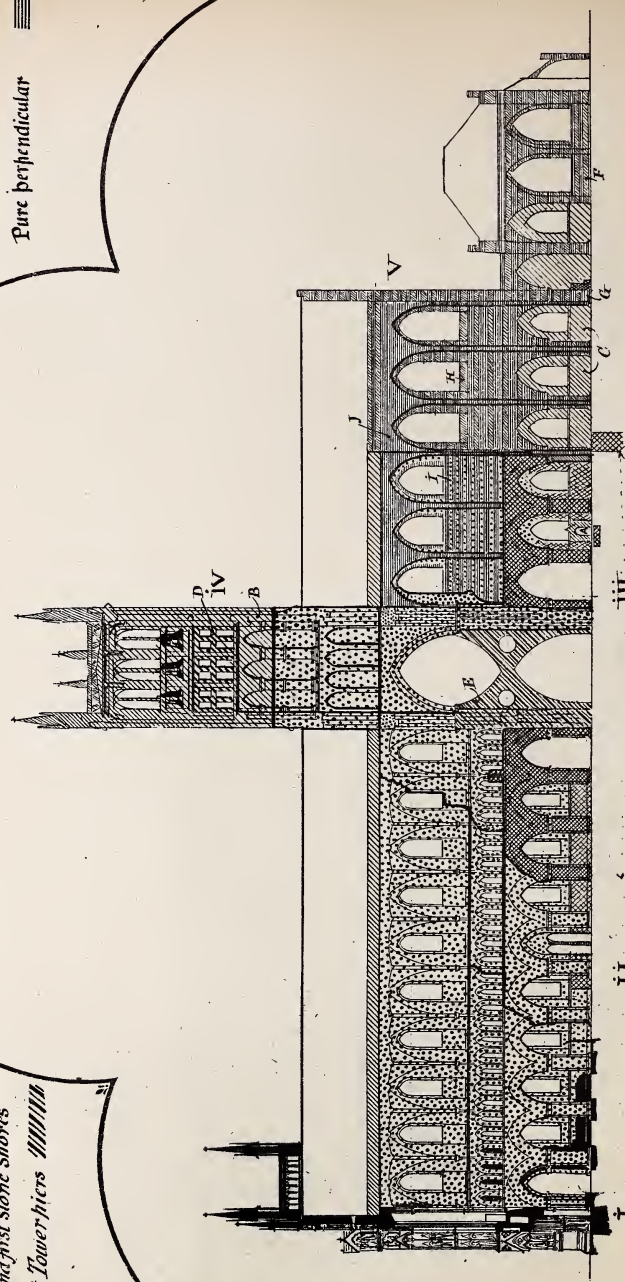
2nd Division Erected from from funds obtained as

offerings at the tomb of Bp. Button the 2nd

called St Button or St William ▨▨▨▨

5th Division 1340 - 1380 ▨▨▨▨

Pure perpendicular ▨▨▨▨



Letters A.B.C.D.E.F.G.H.I.J. Show the order of erection of the several parts.

3rd Division By: Joceline de Wells

2nd Division about 1280 to 1300

A₁Th Division about 1300 - 1330 etc

5th Division (first introduction of Respondents)

Perpendicular additions and insertions

wherever the colours alternate in bands the walls are cased by second builders



Original Grand Entrance

Here

South Elevation showing all the different divisions seen on that side

i

iii

iii

iv

Arms. from the monument in south Transept of Choir



Seal of
Philip de Droghda
of Orehampston



Carta Phil. del Theresis
Philad. Drobens font de
Otkamk de quaz alyquid
font. Din. Ebnas D-roben
font avarnelli sul
fact John de
Godelae v. Din. Homelins
statti suo
Cau d. J. Socio
1332 - 1333



I cannot close without returning my best thanks to the Dean and Chapter for the facilities they, through the kindness of Canon Bernard, granted me for obtaining access to several of their records; to Prebendary Clarke, for valuable information regarding the Lady Chapel in the Cloisters; to Mr. Freeman and to J. H. Parker, C.B.; to Mr. J. O. Scott, who placed the whole of Sir Gilbert Scott's drawings connected with St. David's at my disposal; to Mr. T. Serel for the loan of an extraordinary quantity of MS. materials (including those of Dean Creswick), bearing on almost every point that can be raised relative to the history of the Cathedral—so valuable indeed that I trust it may some day find a secure deposit among the collections towards that most desirable thing—a good county history of Somerset; above all to Mr. F. H. Dickinson, of Kingsweston, whose self-sacrificing labours among dusty MSS. and mediæval Latin, both at Wells and in London, and to whose unsparing kindness in supplying me with translations, is owing a very large part of the matter here put together by his deeply obliged servant, the humble writer of these notes, in his effort to fulfil the request your Society did him the honour of making through Mr. Freeman.

Inscribed Stone found at Sea-Mills,

ON THE RIVER AVON, TWO MILES BELOW BRISTOL,
WITHIN THE ROMAN STATION.

BY THE REV. PREBENDARY SCARTH, M.A.

SEA-MILLS, probably the ancient Roman station called *Trajectus*, lies on the east bank of the river Avon, on the line of the Roman road from Aquæ Solis, or Bath, to Caerwent (Venta Silurum). It is mentioned in the xiv Iter of Antoninus, which beginning at Venta Silurum (Caerwent), terminates at Calleva (Silchester). The site of "Trajectus" is not quite agreed upon by antiquaries, and Sea-mills has been supposed to be the ancient "Abone" as well as the "Trajectus;" but the fact of a Roman station, and probably an anchorage for vessels in Roman times existing there, is beyond a doubt. Within the rampart of this station was found in the summer of 1873 an inscribed stone lying under the turf, with its face upon the surface of the rock, and not being distinguished from it, was unfortunately broken into four pieces. When turned over it was found to be inscribed, and to contain on its surface the figure of a female head and bust, around which is a semi-circle, and on each side the representation of a dog and a cock, above the head is a cross, formed like the St. Andrew's Cross, but with a stem between the two lower portions. The head has earrings in the ears. The words underneath the rude drawing are—

S P E S
C . S E N T I .

with a leaf stop on each side of the upper line.

The upper portion of the stone is angular, like the ordinary sepulchral memorials. The lower portion, which probably contained the remainder of the inscription, has not yet been found.

Unfortunately the first letter of the second line is rendered doubtful by the fissure passing through the upper part, which leaves it somewhat doubtful if it be an O or a C.

The stone appears to be a memorial stone to S P E S, the wife or child of *Caius Sentius*. It is probably Christian, and the date about the 3rd century. The reasons for this opinion are as follows:—*Spes* is a female name. (See Gruter, p. 608, No. 6, *Asinia Spes*; and p. 1818, No. 11, *Torania Spes*). The cross over the head is a Christian symbol. The cock and the dog are Christian also. (See Aringhi 11, 614; Fabretti *Ins. Ant.*, p. 741, n. 505; M. Peret iv., p. xvi. 29; also, *Dict. de Antiq. Christiennes*, par M. L'Abbé Martigny).

The notice of antiquaries was first called to this stone by Mr. Nicholls, city librarian, Bristol, who gave a notice of it in *The Bristol Times and Mirror*, and also a sketch, and an opinion was expressed in a letter quoted, that the inscription was *Mithraic*; but the symbols upon careful examination, appear to be much more Christian than *Mithraic*, the reasons for which opinion were given at the evening meeting at Wells in August. Many thanks are due to Mr. Nicholls for calling attention to this monument, which is probably a Roman Christian tablet, and presents a pleasant instance of paternal or of conjugal affection.

Notes on the Geology of

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF

Wells, Somerset.

BY HORACE B. WOODWARD, F.G.S.,

of the Geological Survey of England and Wales.

INTRODUCTION.

THE interest attaching to the Geology of Somersetshire has been frequently brought before the notice of the Members of the Somersetshire Archæological Society, and more particularly by Mr. Charles Moore, whose labours are so well known; but although much has been written on the subject generally, it may be useful to draw attention to some of the local features, if only to show that there remain many points to be worked out and many questions to be solved, ere the geological structure is thoroughly understood or its history complete.

Wells is admirably placed for the study of geology, as within a walking distance representatives of aqueous, igneous, and metamorphic rocks may be studied. The Upper Palæozoic and Lower Mesozoic rocks are well displayed; while the superficial deposits, the phenomena of denudation, and the relation of the different rocks to the form of the ground, furnish topics of much interest.

TRAP DYKE.

One of the most important discoveries made by Mr. Moore* was that of the Basaltic dyke near Stoke Lane,

* *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.*, vol. xxiii. p. 451.

and which my colleague Mr. Ussher has traced from Tadhill House, Downhead, to near Long Cross Bottom, six miles from Wells in a direct line. It appears to occur in bosses; but its exact nature is not clearly shown, and although it creates a good deal of disturbance in the old red sandstone which it has pierced, it nevertheless does not seem to have created any marked metamorphism in it.

PALÆOZOIC ROCKS.

The structure of the Mendip Hills is well known to be an anticlinal, modified in places by minor folds, and even by an occasional inversion.* The oldest rock, the old red sandstone, appears at North Hill near Priddy, and again at Pen Hill, consisting of red micaceous sandstones, which pass gradually upwards into the lower limestone shales, and these again by similar gradation pass into the mountain limestone. The shales may be observed in the Harptree Road, north of East Milton. Considerable interest attaches to the section of these lower carboniferous rocks and the old red sandstone of the Mendips, when one considers their relation to the Devonian question.† The carboniferous slate in Ireland, which in places fills the whole of the interval between the top of the old red sandstone and the base of the coal measures (the mountain limestone there being but locally developed and passing into the slate), may be taken as the equivalent of our lower limestone shales and mountain limestone, and it was the slaty beds of Lynton, Combe-Martin, Ilfracombe, and Mortehoe, also those of Baggy, Marwood, Pilton, and Barnstaple, that the late Professor Jukes identified with these lower carboniferous rocks.

* See *Geol. Mag.*, vol. viii. p. 149.

† See "Review" in *Quart. Journ. Science*, January, 1873.

Whatever be the true age of the slaty beds of North Devon—be they of old red sandstone age or carboniferous or both,—they show different sedimentary conditions from our East Somerset beds, for we cannot make out the same lithological divisions as we have in the Mendip Hills. The rocks, however, which occur in West Somerset at the base of the slaty series, are generally considered as lithologically identical with typical old red sandstone.

The millstone grit occurs in several places along the northern borders of the Mendips, but no exposure had until lately been traced on the southern slope,* although its probable occurrence has been indicated in sections drawn to explain the structure of the hills and the probabilities of coal beneath the flats of Sedgemoor. Large masses of quartzite crop out by the lane between Easton and Priddy (near the bend) which belong to the millstone grit, and in the ravine leading towards Ebber rocks, traces of lower limestone shales and old red sandstone occur, into which a shaft was sunk in search of coal so recently as 1871.†

There appears to me to be another indication of millstone grit shales immediately south of the high road south of Dinder, in the lane leading to Worminster. These indications are not altogether valueless in regard to the prospects of coal to the south, but they also, from their position, show minor rolls in the mountain limestone.

The prospects of coal to the south of the Mendips have been indicated by many geologists, and there seems a probability of its being reached at the depth of about 1000 feet in the neighbourhood of Meare, Polsham, Wedmore, or Pilton. Trials further south might be equally productive, as at Langport or Somerton, but while the trial would

* See De la Beche, *Mem. Geol. Surv.*, vol. i. p. 213.

† H. W. Bristow and H. B. W., *Geol. Mag.*, vol. viii. p. 500.

anywhere be one of considerable risk, to the south there is more chance of hitting the unproductive pennant grit, which might be avoided further north.*

KEUPER ROCKS.

The different deposits of keuper age met with at Wells are the red marl and dolomitic conglomerate. Their relations are those of a beach deposit to one of deeper water. On the borders of the Mendip range, as shown by Sir Henry De la Beche,† these beds dovetail one into the other, but as a rule the conglomerate extends much higher up the hills, as would be natural with a beach. In the coal district the dolomitic conglomerate (called "Millstone") is usually found at the base of the red marl in the pit-sections. This is not because the conglomerate as a whole was deposited before the marl; it shows in these sections that conglomerate locally preceded the marl, and the area being a subsiding one, deeper water conditions came on, while the formation of conglomerate went on at the margin of the red marl sea, and continued throughout the deposition of the marl, even in places into the Rhætic series (as we find traces of Rhætic conglomerate near Nempnet); while again the lias conglomerate continued in places at the margin of that deposit.

The remarkably even manner in which the mountain limestone has been denuded is well shown at Wallcombe, near Wells, where the keuper beds rest on the basset edges of this rock. This even line is also very conspicuous in the vales near Frome.

The road to Wookey Hole on the one side of Wells and that leading to Dulcot on the other, show in places in the

* See last-mentioned paper, also Moore, *Proc. Somerset Arch. and Nat. Hist. Soc.*, vol. xv.

† *Mem. Geol. Survey*, vol. i. p. 239.

red marl a bed called the "Wonder stone," described by Messrs. Buckland and Conybeare as "a beautiful breccia, consisting of yellow transparent crystals of carbonate of lime, disseminated through a dark red earthy dolomite."

RHÆTIC BEDS.

The Rhætic or Penarth beds, which form a gradual passage between the new red marl and the lower lias,* are exhibited in numerous localities around Wells. One of the best sections in this country is that shown in the railway cutting near Shepton Mallet, which was originally described by Mr. Moore.† The beds attain a thickness of forty feet, which however is nearly quadrupled at Watchet and Penarth, according to the measurements of Messrs. Bristow and Etheridge. Nevertheless at Shepton Mallet the section is complete, showing the three members—the white lias, the black avicula-contorta paper shales, and the grey marls. There is no appearance here of the Cotham marble which at Bath is so well shown at the base of the white lias, in the cuttings of the Midland Railway,‡ but it occurs (2 to 3 inches in thickness) at East Horrington.

In a lane at East Milton the Rhætic beds are also very fairly exhibited, and their junction with the lower lias is so gradual as to render it difficult to fix the exact boundary.||

In the numerous outlying hills situated in the red marl near Wells, the Rhætic beds may be observed, as at Whurt Hill, Pen Knowle, Tilbury, Twine Hill, &c.

LOWER LIAS.

The lower lias is largely developed at Shepton Mallet,

* H. B. Woodward and J. H. Blake, *Geol. Mag.*, vol. ix. p. 196.

† *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.*, vol. xvii. p. 515; vol. xxiii. p. 505.

‡ See section by the Rev. H. H. Winwood, *Proc. Bath Nat. Hist. and Antiq. Field Club*, vol. ii. p. 204.

|| This section was originally described by the Rev. P. B. Brodie, *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.*, vol. xxii. p. 93.

and at Street, where are the famous reptilian quarries. Nearer Wells, on the borders of the Mendip Hills, we find those conglomeratic modifications of the lias which have been pointed out by Sir Henry De la Beche and Mr. Moore, and which indicate the margin of the deposit. These beds are the representatives of the Sutton stone and lias conglomerate of South Wales, and although a Rhætic age was assigned to the former series at one time, its true position as a part of the lias was demonstrated by Mr. Moore* and Mr. Bristow.†

CHERTY BEDS OF HARPTREE.

Very interesting modifications of the liassic and keuper beds are to be found in the neighbourhood of East and West Harptree. The lower lias limestones and the white lias (Rhætic) which possess their ordinary characters near Green Down Cottage, are represented a short distance to the west by a compact chert which occurs in massive beds; while associated with the ordinary red marls and dolomitic conglomerate of keuper age near the Harptrees, we find here and there a chert of a more or less sandy nature. These deposits have attracted some attention from previous observers: Mr. Weaver‡ considered them to be most nearly allied to the greensand formation, and certainly their lithological character and the nature of the ground find their counterparts on the Blackdown Hills near the Wellington monument, where the greensand occurs, composed in its upper part of chert seams, and in its lower of sand. The Rev. W. D. Conybeare|| in 1822, while hesitating to give any decided opinion, concluded on the whole

* *Quart. Jour. Geol. Soc.*, vol. xxiii. p. 449.

† *Idem*, p. 199.

‡ *Trans. Geol. Soc.*, 2nd ser., vol. i. p. 364.

|| *Geology of England and Wales*, p. 304.

that they belonged to the magnesian (dolomitic) conglomerate age. A year later Messrs. Buckland and Conybeare* in a joint paper read before the Geological Society, treated the beds in some detail, and likewise referred them with hesitation to the dolomitic conglomerate.

The true distinction between these deposits was recognised by Sir Henry De la Beche in the Geological Survey Map, and by Mr. Sanders in his large map of the Bristol coal fields.

The greater part of the ground at Harptree Hill contains numerous hollows and pits, but these rarely afford a section. They were mostly dug for calamine or ochre ; a few of them, however, are natural "swallet holes," and such is the large one on the east of the road between East Harptree and the "Castle of Comfort," and about half way between the village and this *uncomfortable* inn. The pit is about 60 feet in diameter at the mouth, it is funnel-shaped, and about 25 feet deep. The beds exposed are massive bedded chert, occurring in layers of from one to three feet in thickness, separated by thin clayey beds an inch or two in thickness, and containing heavy spar in places. *Ammonites planorbis*, *Lima gigantea*, *L. pectinata*, *Myoconcha psilonoti*, *Ostrea Liassica*, and *Pecten Pollux*†, are not uncommon in the upper beds. Possibly the lower beds may be representatives of the white lias, but they yield no fossils. True Rhætic beds are however exposed near the cottage on Harptree Hill. Here we find a pit dug in hardened reddish-brown sand crowded with *Pullastra arenicola*. The same sands occur by the road a quarter of a mile south of the "Castle of Comfort." Some of the hollows yield blocks of sandstone containing *Pecten valo-*

* *Trans. Geol. Soc.*, 2nd ser., vol. i. p. 294.

† These fossils were identified by Mr. Etheridge, F.R.S., &c.

*niensis, Avicula contorta, and Anomia (Placunopsis) Alpina.**

The cherty beds which are associated with the keuper beds may be seen in the vicinity of East Harptree, north of Green Down Cottage, and on either side of the road by Eastwood House, west of Cawley. They are more broken up than the liassic beds, and pass in places into a fine grained sandstone. At Rhud, near West Harptree, immense blocks of hard silicious and cherty rock, also silicious conglomerate may be seen, which are probably of keuper age, although they resemble the cherty lias, which is in some places conglomeratic.

In regard to the origin of this metamorphism, for so it may strictly be called, I have advanced the notion that it was due to some igneous eruption when the beds were under water, the change being produced by the heated water, the dyke itself not coming into contact with the beds.† I need scarcely add that there is room for much further observation on these interesting beds.

Leaving these cherty beds we may turn our attention to some other objects worthy of notice in this neighbourhood.

LEAD AND ZINC MINES.

The lead and zinc mines of the Mendips present very feeble activity now, but they have been worked from very early times. The district was occupied by the Belgæ, and subsequently the Romans, probably tempted by the rich mines, made it one of their first points of occupation. In the time of Edward IV it is said that these mines furnished employment to 10,000 miners, and the immense deposits of slags and slimes indicate the extent of the workings.

Near Wells we have lead-workings at Stoke Hill near

* See *Geol. Mag.*, vol. viii. September, 1871.

† *Geol. Mag.*, vol. viii. p. 400.

Priddy, East Harptree, and Tar Talley near Chewton Mendip. The refuse-deposit at Stoke Hill is about a mile in length, from 200 to 300 yards in width, and from 12 to 20 feet deep. It is estimated to have contained about 500,000 cubic yards of material.* The stream which runs along the hollow on the lower limestone shales, plunged into a swallet-hole at the junction with the mountain limestone, and issued again near Wookey Hole. It was used in washing the ores at the mines, and thereby the water became so polluted, that it was spoilt for the paper manufactory at Wookey Hole. Consequently great disputes took place between the parties interested, which led to a law-suit, and finally to the protection of the owner of the paper-mill against injury arising from polluting matter thrown into the water.

The old material worked at Stoke Hill is found to yield on an average about 10 per cent. of lead. The slags are said to yield about 20 per cent. of the metal; the slimes about 5 per cent. There are about a thousand yards of chimney attached to these works, through which the gas and smoke from the smelting process escape; and the deposit found in this flue yields 50 and sometimes 60 per cent. of lead. Occasionally bits of galena turn up in the refuse, sometimes even a barrow-load, but it is rare to get any.

The works at East Harptree are similar to those at Stoke Hill. Amongst the refuse heaps, besides bits of galena, numerous old tobacco pipes of the earliest type (16th century) occur. Few minerals of any value can be obtained, and Mendipite is not now to be found even at its native place Churchill. Zinc ore (calamine) is very

* H. C. Salmon, *Mining and Smelting Mag.*, vol. vi. p. 322.

sparingly worked at the present time on the Mendip Hills. Like lead ore (galena), it occurs both in veins as well as disseminated in the strata, which include the dolomitic conglomerate and the mountain limestone; but zinc-ore appears to be more abundant in the former, lead ore in the latter.

Mr. Moore has drawn prominent attention to the palæontology of the mineral veins on the Mendip Hills, from a study of which he concludes that in general all the veins which traverse these hills are of liassic age. I have ventured to differ from Mr. Moore on this point, and consider that the organic remains found in the veins were introduced at a subsequent period, when the area was no doubt brought within the influence of the sea, and probably in glacial times. The formation of the veins themselves may have been going on ever since the consolidation of the rocks which they traverse, for contraction and repeated elevation and depression must have formed cracks and fissures, which would soon receive mineral deposits. The veins may therefore be of all ages subsequent to the carboniferous period, and we can understand the occurrence of the ores disseminated in some of the strata, which would be due to the destruction of veins in the older rocks.*

This topic leads me to consider some of the phenomena of later tertiary and quaternary times, and to make a few observations on denudation, a subject however which has been treated in a large way by Professor Ramsay.†

CAVERNS, COMBES, AND ALLUVIAL DEPOSITS.

There is a striking absence of drift deposits over the Mendip Hills, and this is the more remarkable as the

* *Mining Mag. and Review*, vol. i., March, 1872.

† *Mem. Geol. Survey*, vol. i. p. 297.

country to the north including the Cotteswold Hills, also South Wales, and Devonshire, contain drift gravels and glacial deposits.*

Near the trap dyke on Downhead Common, and in several places along the line of the old red sandstone in this neighbourhood are traces of gravel ; but they are due almost entirely to local disintegration of the quartzose conglomerate of old red sandstone age. At Wells there is gravel, also other traces occur near Polsham and Wookey ; these are all made up of the rocks in the neighbourhood, and are ordinary valley or river gravels. No traces, so far as I am aware, of any flint implements or mammalian remains have been found in them, but this may be due to the want of local energy in looking out for them.

In regard to the cavern deposits and their included organic remains I need say nothing, as they have been described so fully by Mr. Boyd Dawkins and Mr. Ayshford Sanford. But I may refer to the theory expressed by the former gentleman in regard to the origin of the Cheddar Cliffs, namely that they were due to the removal of the roof of a gigantic cavern. This theory has been applied by the Rev. J. M. Mello† to explain the origin of some of the Derbyshire dales. He remarks that they were, probably in many instances, originally caverns, which have been through countless ages eaten away by the streams, till at length the roofs have fallen in, and in their turn have been for the most part carried away by the same powerful agent.

The application of this theory to the origin of the Cheddar Cliffs seems in many respects plausible. The

* See *Geol. Mag.*, Dec., 1872 ; July, 1874.

† Sketch of the Geology of Derbyshire, *Trans. Chesterfield and Derbyshire Inst.*, 1872.

cliffs are formed in the mountain limestone, and may be termed a serpentine gorge. They have evidently been *worn away*, not disrupted by any great convulsion, as popularly supposed. The dip of the strata on either side of the gorge coincides, and though possibly some crack which occurred during the elevation of the hills may have given the direction to the cliffs, they are clearly the result of gradual wearing away, of denudation, the result of the action of water. It has been asserted that the sea was the agent that wore them away,* but I can see no traces of its action. The tendency of the sea is rather to form long lines of cliff than narrow gorges. I am therefore inclined to look upon the Cheddar Cliffs as formed by the agency of rain and rivers, both with chemical and mechanical action; but whether originally as a cavern or not, it is hard to say. In North Wales there are gorges formed by mountain torrents, which present on a small scale a resemblance to the Cheddar Cliffs—that particularly which runs from Pont-y-Pant to Bettws-y-Coed. The rocks here too are worn into curious hollows by the eddies and spray of the rushing water.

At Cheddar the dip of the limestone has evidently had very great influence on the formation of the cliffs: on one side, the abrupt one, the dip being away from the cliffs exercises a conservative agency, whereas on the opposite side the dip being into the ravine, a slope has been formed, the tendency being for the beds to break off and fall into the gorge.

The Ebber rocks, a short distance from Wells form a gorge like Cheddar, though on a smaller scale, and differing from it in being in a more natural state. Instead of the

* Mackintosh, *Intellectual Observer*, vol. xii. p. 30. See also *Scenery of England and Wales*, by the same author.

carriage road we have to pick our way along a rugged path, over loose blocks and fallen *débris*. The ravine is well wooded and far more picturesque, though not so grand as Cheddar.

Ravines like this, which are characteristic of a mountain limestone country, as Mr. Dawkins has pointed out, appear in different stages in the Mendip Hills and Broadfield Down: some being deeper and bolder than others, but all perhaps still undergoing the same processes, though in a feeble degree, to which they owe their origin. Mr. Valpy, F.G.S., tells me that since his recollection, Burrington Combe has altered very materially, from the effects of subaërial denudation. One thing must strike one, where has the material gone to which once filled these gaps? The present meteoric action is rather to choke up the combes, as the streams where they occur are very small, and most of the water which falls on the Mendips drains away underground, through the numerous joints and fissures in the mountain limestone. The dolomitic conglomerate, the beach deposit of keuper seas, which is made up so largely of mountain limestone, runs up here and there in to hollows, and is found in spurs along the Mendips. Yet it has itself suffered much denudation, and the features of the combes show that they were not formed by marine action during the keuper period, for the combes occur irrespective of the conglomerates, which are cut through occasionally, as is the limestone. They are clearly of a date subsequent to its deposition. Possibly the waters which once spread over the now alluvial flats may have helped to clear off the *débris*.

I may draw attention here to another subject which has received considerable discussion of late. Many years ago Dr. Buckland drew attention to certain small holes in

the faces of limestone rocks, which were usually found to contain specimens of the common living land snails, and he attributed the formation of these holes to the burrowing power of their molluscan inhabitants. Although it is evident that they have the power of boring and rasping, yet it has not been shown to what extent they have actually been known to bore. I shall not stay to discuss this interesting question, but merely put in a note by the way which I have gleaned from some memoranda made by my father, the late Dr. S. P. Woodward, when on a trip to the Mendips in 1842. He observed that Dr. Buckland's "snail holes" occur frequently on the rocks and in the rock walls, often low down, but always on the windward side. *Helix nemoralis* was the usual occupant. They are, he added, clearly due to weathering, and not to snail action. One may observe that the faces of the rocks are in many places perforated with holes and burrows, which penetrate the stone in every direction, and appear devoid of any regularity. They occur on exposed situations, and may be seen on the surface of the ground after removing the turf. They are due to the action of rain, and the carbonic acid which it imbibes in its course from the atmosphere and soil. Even in old limestone quarries groves and hollows may be traced on the faces of the rock beds, which have evidently been formed since the pit was opened by man. They show what rain does do in a short space of time. Blocks with these perforations are the usual ornaments in the cottag  gardens.

The alluvial flats of Sedgemoor which commence around Glastonbury and extend westwards to the sea border are full of interest, not only as regards their purely physical relations, but also as being so intimately connected with historic times.

The whole of these vast tracts of moorland have evidently formed estuaries or tidal creeks, something like those of the Blackwater and the Crouch on the east coast of Essex. The sedimentary matter of which they are made up is largely due to the denudation of the surrounding hills, while a large portion of it was no doubt derived from the sea, being the mud brought into it by the Severn. Periods occurred when these flat grounds were sufficiently drained to allow of the growth of peat, which appears at the surface in some places, and in others is covered with alluvial soil.

The gentle fall of the rivers and their small size render them inefficient in heavy rains to carry off the water that drains into them. Hence the frequent floods which occur over the moors. The small size of the rivers is in a great measure to be attributed to the character of the watershed, this being so largely a country composed of mountain limestone, which contains joints and crevices that serve to conduct the water underground. Wells no doubt owes its spring, called St. Andrew's Well, to this underground drainage from the Mendips, and being brought to the surface by a siphon arrangement, it rises from the mountain limestone through the overlying red marl and gravel.

Ethnology of Somerset.

BY JOHN BEDDOE, B.A., M.D., F.R.S.,

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Corresp. Member of the Anthropol. Soc. of Berlin.*

THE idea of preparing for this Society a paper on the Ethnology of Somerset was suggested to me nearly twelve months ago, by my late friend William Jones, then honorary secretary of the Society. On my representing the insufficiency of the data in my possession, he promised his active assistance in adding to them, which promise his premature and lamented death prevented him from performing. I had, therefore, to fall back, as regards the physical characteristics of our neighbours, on my own pretty numerous observations upon the stature, weight, form of head, and colour of eyes and hair, and on those collected for me some years ago by a number of gentlemen, of whom I may specify Dr. Liddon and the late Dr. Gibson, of Taunton; Mr. Oakley, governor of the gaol there; Mr. Phillips, then of Bishops Lydeard; Mr. Prankard, of Langport; Dr. Swete, then of Wrington; Mr. Goodden, of Wookey; Drs. Medlicott and Bath, of the County Asylum; and one of your present secretaries, Mr. O. Malet.

I will first give a brief sketch of the ethnographical

history of the county, and then endeavour to show its bearings upon the physical aspect of the population at the present day.

Before the Roman conquest the eastern part of the county is believed to have been occupied by the Belgæ, who were recent immigrants from Gaul : the more ancient tribes of the Damnonii and Dobuni, or Boduni, occupying respectively the western half, and the small strip along the Avon, north of Wansdyke. Whether there were considerable physical differences between these tribes is doubtful ; but the Belgæ were pretty certainly a vigorous race, tall and rawboned, and much like the modern Walloons of Liege and the Ardennes, who are, generally speaking, a dark-haired people.

It is not probable that the Roman occupation had much effect in modifying the native population of Somerset.

Towards the end of the sixth century, however, the tide of Saxon conquest began seriously to influence the distribution of race in the west of England. We may leave out of question the semi-mythical campaigns of Arthur, and come at once to the exploits of King Ceawlin of Wessex, and his victory at Dyrham (577). Dr. Guest (for reasons which appear to me, as well as to a more competent critic, Mr. Freeman, to be very weighty), believes that this victory resulted in the occupation, by Ceawlin and his followers, of the northern corner of Somerset, the district bounded on the south-west and south-east by the river Axe, and by a line passing from Wookey, through Wallscombe and Wallsmead, to Englishcombe and Bathford, or thereabout.

How far this, and other early Saxon conquests, implied or brought about a change in the population, is a disputed question, and one of considerable interest. The old

doctrine was that the British inhabitants were either slaughtered or thrust out bodily ; but, nowadays, it has come to be the fashion to treat such conquests as merely the introduction of a new military aristocracy. For myself, I believe that the British freemen were exterminated in the literal sense of the term, that is, slain or driven out, but that the servile class, and especially the women, remained in considerable numbers, merely undergoing a change of masters. We may thus account for the fact that in the conquered district Welsh names, such as Dundry, survived, though the invaders imposed new names upon most of the villages and hamlets.

The eastern and central portions of the county were, probably, not subdued until about 80 years later, when Kenwalch, of Wessex (in 658), fought the Welshmen at the Pens (Peonna), and drove them to the Parret. This river seems to have been the boundary of races for another generation, until Kentwin, in 682, drove the Britons to the sea. The meaning of the last statement has been disputed ; I think it probable that Kentwin conquered the vale of Taunton, and, at least, overran the country as far as Bideford Bay. At all events, Ine, his almost immediate successor, was in possession of Taunton in the early part of the eighth century.

These conquests of Kenwalch, Kentwin, and Ine were made by Saxons calling themselves Christians, and it has been supposed likely that on account of the novel community of religion with the Welsh they would probably treat the latter, when conquered, more mildly than their forefathers would have done in the days of Ceawlin, and that accordingly a larger proportion of Welshmen would remain in the annexed districts. Indeed we know, from the laws of Ine, that in his day and under his rule,

Welshmen could be freemen and landowners. Again, the further the tide of colonization spread from its source in Hampshire, the more it must have been diluted with the aboriginal or British element. Take into consideration, also, the fact that invaders usually seize on the richer and more accessible, that is, low lying lands, while the conquered usually take refuge in poor, sterile, and hilly, or otherwise difficulty-accessible districts, and we shall be led to look for the greatest infusion of Saxon or English blood in the people of the north of the county, from Axbridge to Keynsham, for a smaller proportion in the Mendip Hills, and in the whole tract extending from Bath and Wincanton to the Parret; for as little or even less in the country about Taunton and Ilminster, and for quite a small flavour of it in the Quantock and Exmoor hills. Such, at least, was probably the relative position of the two great races in the county at the period of the Norman Conquest. Somerset was easily reduced and held by the foreigners; the dispossession of the old landholders was hardly so complete as in some other counties, and it is not likely that any material modification in the population resulted. But a gradual infiltration of Englishmen from other counties into the towns of Somerset must have taken place ever since then, the tendency of which would be to add somewhat to the Saxon element. And Flemish and Walloon refugees settled in several of the towns, exercising however a more important influence on the trade and prosperity than on the ethnology of the districts. There is also, as has been pointed out to me by Dr. H. J. Hunter, some history of a mediæval Irish colony at the extreme western border of the county.

Let us now examine the differences in physical characters which are demonstrable or apparent, and consider whether

they may be referred to the ethnographical differences which I have pointed out as probably existing.

It is a fact that the people of the eastern half of the county have, on the whole, broader heads, lighter hair, and darker eyes than those of the western half. In all these respects the eastern men approach more to the ordinary English, the western to the Irish standard. These are the clearest and most important differences between them, and are very much what we might have expected to discover.

The mixed-blooded inhabitants of the towns appear to be lighter as to both eyes and hair than the people of either division. This is contrary to the relation which subsists between townsmen and country folk in the eastern parts of England; but it may be accounted for easily. Owing to the greater intercommunication and mixture of blood in the towns, their inhabitants, throughout England, tend far more to uniformity of type than those of the rural districts; and the uniform type which is approached by them is more Teutonic than that of most parts of Somerset.

Again, at the period of the Norman Conquest, the freemen of Somerset must have been on the whole somewhat less Keltic, and therefore probably more often light-haired than the serfs; and for some time after that event the franchises of the towns must have offered a tempting refuge to the unsupported Saxon freemen of the neighbourhood.

There are other local differences in feature and complexion, of the existence of which I am myself pretty well satisfied, though I cannot give you sufficient statistical grounds for my opinion, as I could for the statements hitherto made.

Thus I may say that the fair and handsome Frisian type is pretty common in the north of the county; that in the hilly south-eastern region about Wincanton, dark complexions and dark or even black hair attest the late and imperfect Saxonization of the country; that the same may be said of the Quantocks; that about Minehead and Dunster, perhaps from the less fixity of population induced by sea-faring, there is more evidence of mixture of blood; and that in Exmoor and in some villages of Mendip, the narrow skull, prominent jaws, and bony frame of the Gaelic type, and the Turanian oblique eye and pyramidal skull, crop up here and there, possibly as aberrant or degraded forms, but more probably as relics of primeval races.

Respecting the stature and bulk of the people in the several divisions of the county I have a great deal of statistical evidence, collected by careful and competent observers, mostly of my own profession; and it has yielded me some valuable information, bearing, however, less directly on ethnology than might, perhaps, have been expected. My friend, Mr. Prankard, of Langport, is of opinion that there is a notable difference in physique, as well as in dialect, between the people to the east of the Parret and those to the west of it—the eastern men being larger, and having more of the Saxon type. That this is the fact in so far as that they are, on the whole, lighter-haired, I have already affirmed. The supposed difference in stature does not come out so clearly in my tables. The labouring people about Taunton do, indeed, stand very low in this respect, but Mr. Malet informs me that this may be due to the extreme popularity of the military service in those parts, which is such that most of the well-grown youths are speedily picked up by the recruiting sergeants, for the

marines or other corps. If one were disposed to be complimentary, one might ascribe this to the hereditary valour of the descendants of the men of Sedgemoor, or even (if Mr. Freeman will permit me) of the followers of Eadnoth. But, in sober earnest, I believe it is connected with the redundancy of agricultural population, and the low wages concurrent therewith. Under such circumstances the finer, stronger, and more enterprising men migrate or enlist, while in counties where employment is abundant and highly paid, such as Yorkshire, it is the physically inferior men who do so. Accordingly, the Somerset recruits in my tables (which, however, take account only of men of full age) stand high above those of Yorkshire in stature and size, though a mass of other evidence shows that the average Yorkshire man is really a much bigger animal than the average Somersetshire man.

The race-character, as to size, should be sought among those who are sufficiently fed and not overworked in youth. And I find that the farmers of Bishops Lydeard are a well-grown set of men, averaging over 5 ft. $8\frac{1}{4}$ in. in height without shoes, and about 12 stones in weight. I have no return exactly corresponding to this from any part of East Somerset. At Wrington, a number of little farmers (13), belonging to a friendly society, yielded quite a low average of weight, though in stature they somewhat exceeded the labourers.* The small working farmer is generally, I think, in most countries, a careful, frugal man, and more apt to fatten his pigs and cattle than himself.

I am one of those who believe that not only complexion, but stature, and not only physical, but mental and moral character, depend very greatly upon race. But other and

* Farmers, 5 ft. 6·9 in. (without shoes), and 151 lbs. Labourers, 5 ft. 6 in., and 150 lbs. Artizans, 5 ft. 5·6 in., and 147 lbs.

powerful influences may thwart and obscure the hereditary tendencies. Laws, language, religion, modify the moral and intellectual nature of man ; and similarly abundance or scarcity of food, quality of air and water, modes of living and occupation, and like agencies, whether operating directly or through natural selection, do, doubtless, modify his physical nature.

NOTE.

The modulus, or index of relative breadth, in 162 Somerset heads was as follows :—In 80 of East Somerset, average 77·9, exactly the same as in 50 Bristolians and 50 Gloucestershire men. In 53 of West Somerset, 76·9, and in 29 of south (Mid) Somerset, chiefly from small towns, 78·6.

The colours of the eyes and hair are best given in a tabular form.

| Natives of | Number
observed | Eyes per cent. | | | Hair per cent. | | | | |
|---|--------------------|----------------|--------|------|----------------|------|-------|------|-------|
| | | Light | Neutr. | Dark | Red | Fair | Brown | Dark | Black |
| Somerset,
towns
excluding
Bath | 176 | 60·2 | 14·7 | 25 | 2·5 | 16·7 | 40 | 32·9 | 7·6 |
| East
Somerset
(rural) | 414 | 53·8 | 11·8 | 34·4 | 3·9 | 11·8 | 33·6 | 45·7 | 4·7 |
| West
Somerset
(rural) | 120 | 57·5 | 16·6 | 25·8 | 1·2 | 5·4 | 38·7 | 49·6 | 5 |

OBSERVATIONS ON THE
West Front of Wells Cathedral.

BY BENJAMIN FERREY, F.S.A.

A FEW observations upon some of the architectural features of the fine west-front of this Cathedral, which have been brought close to view by the aid of scaffolding, cannot but prove interesting to every lover of ancient art.

A minute examination of the details, whether of the more important sculpture, consisting of figures, viz., crowned kings, queens, mitred bishops, princesses, abbesses, nobles, and knights, &c. ; or of the exquisitely-carved free and beautiful foliage in the capitals, canopies, tympana, pedestals and terminals, tends to heighten all previous appreciation of these parts of the façade, many of which could hitherto only be imperfectly seen by the aid of a telescope.

The crowning range of statues, consisting of the twelve Apostles, terminates in a noble manner the main elevation of the front. It has been said that the six grand projecting buttresses are unnecessarily large for the constructive uses they were to serve, and are formed rather for the introduction of niches and sculpture than as duly proportioned abutments to the nave arcade, but without a knowledge of

the ultimate height to which Bishop Jocelin proposed to carry the towers (and in all probability he contemplated very lofty structures after the manner of the Cathedrals at Soissons and Laon) it is unfair to criticize their size. Even however with the upper stages of the later terminations added by Bishops Bubwith and Harewell, in the fourteenth* and fifteenth centuries, they are scarcely disproportioned, and, looking at them as appropriate features for the reception of sculpture, they are most admirably contrived, and show the consummate skill of Bishop Jocelin. A distinguished writer and architectural critic, who some little time since published three most interesting lectures upon the City of Wells, has, I think, spoken in depreciatory and scarcely justifiable terms of the west-front.

The general design has been so fully described by Buckler, Britton, Murray, and other writers, and its sculpture elucidated in so remarkably able a manner by Professor Cockerell, in his interesting work entitled "The Iconography of the West Front of Wells Cathedral" (his interesting theory is well worthy of careful consideration, although, probably, open to some differences of opinion), that I shall not weary you by any repetition; but, in passing, I would simply call attention to the remarkably small size of the portals, which are really insignificant in scale, as compared with the great continental examples of Rheims, of Notre Dame, at Paris, and other cathedrals of the same date as Wells.

In a design of such splendour the contracted dimensions of these doorways is very remarkable, for though there is a certain boldness of character about the arch mouldings

* Bp. John Harewell died 1386, so his work must be 14th.

of the coupled doorway, still there is an absence of anything like that grandeur which is so conspicuous in the portals of all the continental cathedrals, abounding with statues, enriched mouldings, and niches, and figures, filling up even the arches themselves. It would seem that the designer of this front felt that something was wanting, as there is an evident addition, made in a very unusual manner, after the central portals were erected. The arching of the central doorway consists of four orders of deeply-wrought mouldings. In the first large cavetto a series of niches and small figures was inserted after the arch was erected: they are not carved out of solid *vaussors*, but skilfully fitted and grooved into the back of the large sunk moulding. The materials of the whole front consist of Douling stone and blue *lias* columns, abaci, string courses, and pedestals, but this additional enrichment in the central doorway is carved in white *lias*, and adds much to the effect of the soffit, though palpably an afterthought.

I would also call attention to a peculiarity in the plan of the first tier of niches. In order that this lowest stage might not have an appearance of weakness, and yet that effective shadow might be obtained for the statues, the backs of the niches are set at a slightly recessed angle in the centre, thus giving an appearance of strength to the angular jambs. In the range of *quatrefoils* immediately over these niches, are contained the beautiful scriptural subjects, so ably described by Professor Cockerel: photographs of which have been published by the Photographic Society.

Another noteworthy characteristic is the selection of subjects of the sculpture, as pointed out by Professor Cockerell. They are chosen to impress upon the beholder the grand verities of the Christian faith, and there is a total absence

of all apocryphal and superstitious subjects. Whether the intention of the sculpture was to express in stone the glorious theme of the *Te Deum*, as ingeniously suggested by the late Mr. Cockerell, or with whatever meaning they were executed, they are worthy of admiration, and a higher tribute to the excellence of the figures can hardly be adduced than the praise awarded to them by the great Flaxman, who remarks : " Bishop Jocelyn rebuilt the Cathedral Church of Wells, from the pavement, which having lived to finish and dedicate, he died in the year of our Lord 1242. The west-front of this church equally testifies the piety and comprehension of the Bishop's mind." The sculpture presents the noblest, most useful, and interesting subjects possible to be chosen. On the south side, above the west door, are *alti relievi* of the Creation in its different parts, the Deluge, and the important acts of the patriarchs. Companions to these are *alti relievi* of the principal circumstances of the life of our Saviour. Above these are two rows of statues, larger than nature, in niches, of kings, queens, and nobles, patrons of the church, saints, bishops, and other religious persons from the first foundation of the building to the reign of Henry the Third. Near the pediment is our Saviour come to judgment, attended by angels and the twelve Apostles. The upper arches on each side along the west-front, and continued in the north and south ends, are occupied by figures rising from their graves, strongly expressing the hope, fear, astonishment, stupefaction, or despair inspired by the presence of the Lord and Judge of the World in that awful moment. In speaking of the execution of such a work, due regard must be paid to the circumstances under which it was produced in comparison with those of our own times. There were neither prints, nor printed books to assist the artist. The sculptor could

not be instructed in anatomy, for there were no anatomists. Some knowledge of optics, and a glimmering of perspective, were reserved for the researches of so sublime a genius as Roger Bacon, some years afterwards. A small knowledge of geometry and mechanics was exclusively confined to two or three learned monks in the whole country; and the principles of those sciences, as applied to the figure and motion of man and inferior animals, were known to none! Therefore, this work is necessarily ill-drawn, and deficient in principle, and much of the sculpture is rude and severe, yet, in parts, there is a beautiful simplicity, an irresistible sentiment, and, sometimes, a grace exceeding more modern productions.

It is very remarkable that Wells Cathedral was finished in 1242, two years after the birth of Giovanni Cimabue, the restorer of painting in Italy, and the work was going on at the same time that Nicolo Pisano, the Italian restorer of sculpture, exercised the art in his own country. It was finished, also, forty-six years before the Cathedral of Amiens, and thirty-six years before the Cathedral of Orvieto was begun, and it seems to be the first specimen of such magnificent and varied sculpture, united in a series of sacred history, that is to be found in Western Europe. It is, therefore, probable that the general ideas of the work might be brought from the east by some of the crusaders. But there are two arguments strongly in favour of the execution being English, the family name of the bishop is English—"Jocelin Troteman," and the style, both of sculpture and architecture, is wholly different from the tombs of Edward the Confessor and Henry the Third, which were by Italian artists. There are many compositions of the Almighty creating Eve, by Giotto, of Florence, by Buon Amico and Buffalmacco, of Pisa,

Ghiberti, and Michael Angelo. This is certainly the oldest, and not inferior to any of the others.

For dignity of expression and posture many of the statues can hardly be surpassed, and the affecting series of groups filling the long range of niches over the west triplet window, illustrating the resurrection at the last great day, are wonderfully fine, and we can only regret that an imperfect knowledge of anatomy has somewhat marred the treatment of this most solemn representation. Nevertheless, the attitudes and expressions of despair and grief are exemplified in a wonderful manner, and the uplifting and rising from the tombs are conceived and carried out in the most masterly way.

It must be remarked in reference to these several groups, consisting of no less than sixty subjects, that they are not sunk or carved out of the solid masonry, but executed in detached blocks, and inserted within the niches. Curiously enough, also, each group has an incised number, still distinctly visible, showing the order in which they were to be placed. The bishops have their mitres, and priests their tonsures, though in other respects all are entirely naked. Above and around these figures must be noticed the bold and splendidly-undercut foliage which fills the spandrels, and, although much is decayed, there yet remains a considerable extent of this ancient, fine, and effective carving, standing out in the most artistic manner; indeed, through the whole of this front, the capitals, bases, and hollow mouldings at the back of each of the insulated columns exhibit beautiful carving, and present an admirable study for the sculptor.

Immediately above this resurrection stage, as it may be termed, which extends not only across the west front proper, but fills also the sides of the two towers, there is

a central feature, consisting of nine niches, with well-moulded trefoil heads, resting on as many blue lias columns, and containing what has not inaptly been termed by Professor Cockerell, "The nine orders of the Heavenly Hierarchy," though his supposition can scarcely be borne out, now that a close inspection of the statues has been made. They may be thus described, beginning from the north :—No. 1 is an archangel, with double wings, carrying in his hands a regal, or small organ. No. 2. An angel, apparently holding a crown in the right and left hands, close to his breast. No. 3. A seraph, entirely feathered, holding a vessel with flames issuing out of it, the legs and feet being also enveloped in flames, probably the avenging angel. No. 4. An angel robed in a tunic, with an ornamental border, the legs incased in armour, and wearing a jewelled cap. No. 5. An angel beautifully robed, holding a sceptre. No. 6. An angel wearing a helmet, but the figure is too dilapidated to make out what its attributes are. No. 7. A seraph entirely feathered, with bare legs and feet. No. 8. A seraph, apparently holding a banner. No. 9. An angel holding an open book. The niches on the returns of the two great buttresses contain angels blowing trumpets. These nine figures have been supposed to symbolise angels, archangels, powers, thrones, dominions, principalities, authorities, cherubim, and seraphim.

The sadly dilapidated condition of these statues has been truthfully shown by a series of photographs. They are hopelessly going to ruin, and no effort, I fear, can save them. It is, however, a satisfaction to possess such unquestionable evidence of their condition, and to be able, even in their present imperfect state, to give some idea of their former vigorous outlines. Great difference of opinion

prevails as to the course which should be taken with the sculpture, which is so completely crumbling away that no trace of it will shortly remain.

Some are for awaiting this result, rather than touch the fragile remains, while others recommend that these figures should be at once removed, while there is sufficient indication of their character, and be carefully preserved in the Cathedral, and that others, executed by skilful hands, should be placed in the niches—a suggestion not unworthy of consideration. It has, however, been considered the wiser course to leave them untouched, merely protecting the fragments from falling; they therefore remain *in situ*, and must submit to the future effects of time.

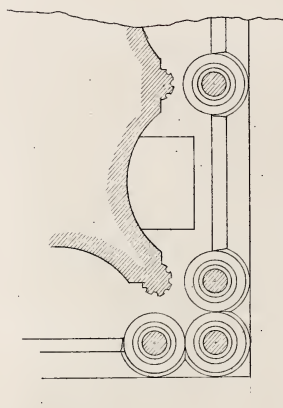
Above this range of statues comes the tier of twelve niches, containing, beyond doubt, the figures of the twelve Apostles—most of them can be identified by the instruments used in their martyrdom, or by significant emblems. And here I may venture to call attention to some matters of detail, which Professor Cockerell overlooked. St. Philip holds five loaves—probably in illusion to the miracle wrought by our Lord in feeding the multitude—while St. John the Evangelist holds not a vase, as he supposed, but the chalice, from which a serpent is creeping. A peculiarity of much beauty in the arrangement of these niches and canopies deserves notice. The late dilapidated condition of the canopies and capitals, gave the impression that the greater number of the sustaining columns were wanting, but the fact is that the series of niches is divided into four large bays, containing in each three figures, the group being separated by projecting columns, while the figures themselves are divided by smaller attached columns at the back of each niche, the canopies to the figures projecting in a pendentive manner, and the soffites formed of

WELLS CATHEDRAL

WEST
→

PLAN OF NICHES TO BUTRESSES IN
THE LOWEST TIER OF WEST FRONT.

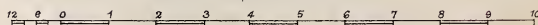
PLAN OF CENTRAL VESICIA (ENCLOSING THE FIGURE OF
OUR SAVIOUR) AND NICHES IN UPPER PART OF WEST FRONT.



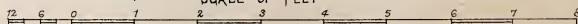
WEST

NICHE AT SOUTH SIDE OF ONE OF BUTRESSES.

SCALE OF FEET TO VESICIA ONLY



SCALE OF FEET



HALF PLAN OF APOSTLES TIER.

C.L.

free and beautiful foliage. This is an unusual treatment, but quite worthy of attention, as showing the happy manner of relieving the monotony of twelve similar niches as usually arranged.* By a reference to the details of this front, given by Britton in his "Wells Cathedral," it will be seen that his illustrations of this part are most inaccurate; every niche is there shown as supported by columns on the same plane, and the artist has completely missed the charming deviation from the common rule: probably, also, with a view to diminish the weight of the statues pressing upon the heads of the niches immediately under, they are all hollowed at the back to a considerable extent. The sculptured capitals of these niches are remarkable, the graceful foliage being disposed in a very free manner: in some the leaves are growing upwards, in others they are bent downwards, but in every instance the outlines of the capitals are admirably preserved. The figures which fill these niches are unquestionably of later date than the rest of the statuary, but they are singularly grand and effective works, when the distance from which they were to be viewed is considered. Before describing each, I would call attention to the conventional arrangement of their positions. The Cathedral being erected to the glory of God, and in honour of St. Andrew, he, as patron saint, occupies a central position, and is considerably taller than the other Apostles, his head filling the upper portion of the canopy. Another statue, with symbols so completely decayed that the identity is difficult to discover, may not improbably be St. James the Less, the figure being remarkably short, and the head unusually large. There are slight traces of colour upon all the figures, and in the protected parts of the robes the deep

* See plan annexed.

maroon tint is found. There are no remains whatever of gilding, but the bright colours of the stone, affected by the weather, give almost the brilliancy of gold.

I now come to the upper part of the front which masks the west end of the nave roof. It is generally admitted that this part of the design of the west front is not successful, it shows evident marks of having being tampered with at some time or other,* and the manner in which the crosses and hip knobs are placed upon the ridge of the upper-stepped coping of the elevation is not pleasing or effective. In what way the original finish was intended must be matter of conjecture. The two well-proportioned octangular pinnacles, on each buttress, flanking the last tier of niches, undoubtedly belong to the first period, as also the centre part with the large vesica niche, containing the figure of our blessed Lord,† the two side niches, and surrounding embellishments. It is much to be regretted that a part only of this most beautiful statue remains. The upper half of the figure is gone, but the fine drapery, with the lower limbs, and the feet pierced by the nails, are sufficient to show what a noble statue it must have been. Our Lord is represented sitting upon a throne, the ends of which are shown with the seat rising at a considerable angle, a conventional method much adopted in ancient paintings and religious illustrations. The side niches, in all probability, contained angels censuring the Divine Personage.

* Most probably in the early part of the 17th century, as among the Chapter archives there is a record that, owing to the then great expenses in the repairs and works, no stipends could be paid that year.

† There are distinct marks of bullets remaining upon the robe, showing that the statue had been shot at, probably at the time when Monmouth's soldiers destroyed the corner range of figures of the west-front.

An examination of the masonry of the central pinnacle, occupying the place generally adorned with a floriated cross, shows that the upper part has undergone some alteration. The pinnacle, embedded by the coping on each side, has its mouldings and bases complete, as low as the string course immediately over the vesica. On removing the coping it was found to be roughly scribed, and fitted to the octangular pinnacle, and run in with cement, concealing entirely the base of the pinnacle. The perfect shape of the mouldings where so concealed, and the weather-worn appearance of the exposed upper portion shows, however, that the alteration must have been made a long time since. That this upper part has been altered at some time or other is quite evident. In all probability a large floriated cross occupied the position of the central pinnacle.

Upon the coping immediately over the range of niches containing the Apostles, the bases yet remain of three ornamental objects, which once stood upon the ridge. The sockets, though not visible from below, are yet preserved, and into them the new finials have been inserted.

In the first edition of "Dugdale's Monasticon," issued in the year 1650, there is a view of the west-front, showing the terminals which were then in existence. They consisted of two floriated hip knots, between a cross on each side. Their destruction probably occurred soon after that date, as in the second edition of "Dugdale," published later, these ornaments are omitted.

It is to be regretted that the original design of the central termination of this front is lost. The pinnacle which occupies the position of the cross, was taken from some other part of the Cathedral, and has been fixed where it now stands. It is of much later date than Jocelyn's time, and may probably have been a pinnacle

from a buttress of the Lady Chapel, for this beautiful structure, beautiful even as it now is, must have been far more so, when its external buttresses were surmounted by floriated pinnacles, of which only the bases now remain to prove their former existence. A cross would have been the appropriate terminal, but, in all probability, this sacred ornament was destroyed when the statue of the Saviour was mutilated; and it is a remarkable circumstance that one cross only remains upon the eastern gable of the Cathedral, a fact which would seem to show that Puritanical violence was exercised in an unusual degree upon this building.

Although my remarks are intended to apply to the west-front proper, it is impossible to limit one's observations to that façade. Each return of the west towers exhibits the same vigorous treatment in design which is conspicuous in the great façade, and also shows the utter disregard paid to the works of their predecessors by later architects, who spared neither beauty of form, nor ingenuity of design, if it interfered with new work contemplated by themselves. As a palpable case of this kind, I may point to the reckless manner in which Bishop Beckington, in the fifteenth century, when rebuilding the Cloisters, disregarded earlier architecture, carrying his work carelessly against the south side of the south-western tower, completely concealing the beautiful arcading which came in his way. Nor did he stop his building to preserve the insulation of the tower, but intruded his late and inferior Perpendicular work into the far superior design of Bishop Jocelyn, both here, and in the east wing of the Cloisters, and barely spared the most beautiful arched doorways of the south-west tower and south transept, the gems of the Cathedral. It was only recently discovered that a flat wall, which formed the north end of a chamber

over the Cloister, devoted to the Wells Theological College, really concealed the niches and arcades on the south side of the tower, every projecting member having been hacked off and thrust into the recess, so as to make a smooth face. The sharpness and beauty of the fragments can hardly be surpassed, proving that even in pre-reformation times due regard was not always paid to art workmanship. The north side of the north-west tower, happily, has escaped any mutilation, excepting such as time and the severity of the weather have effected, and notwithstanding the successive changes, when the aisles were transformed from Early English, by the addition of pierced Decorated parapets above the corbel courses, and the insertion of Perpendicular tracery in the Early English windows, there yet remain a few feet of the early drip-stone attached to the tower, showing the height and angle of the original lean-to roof of the south aisle, as designed by Bishop Jocelyn, a fragment, though small in itself, yet valuable, as defining with certainty the original height of the nave aisles.

To those who are acquainted with this Cathedral it will hardly be necessary to point out the striking effect produced by the multitude of slender shafts at the several angles of the buttresses and in the niches and arcades. These shafts, many of them in lengths of 13 feet in one piece of blue lias, by their number and position formed a great feature of the front. Unfortunately a number of them, owing to the perishable nature of the blue lias, had either crumbled away or been blown down. At various times as these accidents occurred other shafts had been supplied, but instead of being re-instated in blue lias or other grey marble, Douling stone had unhappily been used. The charm, therefore, which was produced by the beautiful tint of the grey shafts had been wholly lost, and

the monotony produced by a large quantity of small stone shafts was most palpable. There are however a few of the original shafts yet remaining, and the pleasing effect they produce, especially when the setting sun shines upon them, has only to be seen to be appreciated. Colour entered as much into the minds of the great architects of earlier days as form and composition. In an early water-colour drawing of this Cathedral made by Turner, that great artist showed the beautiful variety of tint produced when a great number of the original shafts were yet standing. Nobody knew better how to express in colour the pleasing contrast which was produced by the judicious mixture of these materials.

Those who have watched the condition of this great western portion of the Cathedral have seen with deep regret the rapid decay going on from year to year; every winter or heavy gale produces fresh mischief, and within a late period the fall of canopies and portions of the statues and bases had become dangerous to those daily passing by the north-west corner of the Cathedral. Some three years since a large canopy fell with a great crash, and it became absolutely necessary that some general examination should be made to ascertain the safety of many other parts which had a threatening appearance. I was therefore instructed by the Dean and Chapter to have a scaffolding erected, and make an examination of the condition of the niches and decorative portions of the two great buttresses of the north-west tower. This I did without delay, and I cannot do better than conclude with a paragraph of my report which I addressed to the Dean and Chapter in August, 1868.

“I wish especially to guard myself against any supposed scheme for a general restoration. I simply appeal, as a

practical man, and ask for the performance of those protective measures which as guardians of so precious a trust I am sure the Dean and Chapter will readily carry out. In conclusion I recommend that each part of the west-front should be carefully examined and strengthened where necessary, and wherever it may be found needful to replace carved work, I feel confident that the new portions may be worthily assimilated to the old."

I have thought it desirable to give this portion of my report to the Dean and Chapter, that it may be seen how much I desired that there should be no unnecessary tampering with the ancient work, and I venture to affirm that not a fragment of new stonework has been introduced which was not absolutely necessary to save some parts of the structure which were in immediate danger of falling.

I regret extremely that photographs of every figure have not been taken, but unforeseen difficulties occurred to prevent this being done, still from those which are now shown a fair notion may be formed of the dignified character of the rest.

DESCRIPTION AND REPORT OF THE FIGURES* TO THE WEST-FRONT.

THIRD TIER.

Female figure (in good preservation), held in its place by an iron guard, but in danger of falling, through the decay of the string course on which the pedestal stands.

Figure of St. Nicholas, holding children in his arms (in fair condition).

A female figure (in a fair state of preservation).

Figure on the return niche wanting.

* Photographs of many of these figures have been taken.

A noble sitting figure of an ecclesiastic, without mitre (the right shoulder split through, being badly cramped with iron).

Knight in armour and hauberk, holding a pointed shield (the chain-armour in good preservation).

Knight (arms gone) in long surcoat, deeply fringed, the legs incased in chain-armour.

Knight in hauberk, without armour, but feet spurred, having a cap on his head, holding a shield on his left arm, and a girdle and sword.

Knight, bare headed, in surcoat only, holding close to his left side a large shield ; the feet spurred.

Bishop, sitting, modern mitre (hands gone, otherwise well preserved, but in danger of falling, through the decay of string course below.)

SECOND TIER.

Figure in flowing robe, with the right knee raised to suit the weathering of the aisle roof.

A king standing, a figure of great beauty.

Two figures on the return niches missing.

A king sitting in defiant attitude, with right arm a-kimbo, and left knee raised, his foot resting on a pedestal.

A most graceful and perfect female figure, with flowing hair confined by a circlet, holding her mantle with her right hand and touching a locket with her left hand raised. (The entire figure perfect).

A crowned female, with flowing hair, her left hand placed upon the girdle of her robe, the dress fastened round the neck with a beautiful jewel.

A beautiful female figure (head completely gone), the left hand touching the ribbon round her neck. (The figure perfect in all other respects.)

A dignified male figure in flowing robe (portions of the arms bent upwards, but the hands gone).

A king sitting in a menacing attitude, his hands resting upon his knees.

FIRST TIER.

Beautiful standing figure of an ecclesiastic, with stole crossing on the left shoulder.

An ecclesiastic, with high collar to his vestment, his stole on his left shoulder, holding a book in his left hand.

Figure missing.

A priest in dalmatic, with maniple over his left arm, holding with both hands an open book. (Figure in excellent state).

Ecclesiastic (figure in good preservation, left hand only wanting).

Priest, holding a book in the left hand (right hand gone, otherwise figure in excellent condition).

Figure with flowing hair, holding a book in the left hand (the upper part of the statue fast mouldering away).

Figure like the former (but without hands).

THIRD TIER.

Mitred bishop, with ears much distended, his face beardless (the hands gone, but otherwise in good state).

Female figure, with flowing hair and in peculiar dress, holding a box in the left hand.

Two vacant niches.

A female figure, with circlet round the head, and draped at the back, holding part of her robe with the right hand, a jewel on the breast.

A very tall female figure, with the right arm hanging close to her side, and the left on her breast.

A female figure, with a coronet and drapery falling from the left side of her head, and folded over the right arm, holding in her left hand a book.

Bishop (with a mitre gone), vested in dalmatic, chasuble, and alb, holding a book in the left hand (the right hand gone).

Stout female figure (the lower part of the arms gone).

Short male figure, trampling a man under his feet.

SECOND TIER.

A king, holding his robes with each hand (in good preservation).

A king, the right arm over his chest and the left on his girdle.

A king, holding a riband on his neck, and his right hand suspending the end of his girdle.

A female, with a coronet, and flowing hair, holding her robe in her left hand.

A king, the right hand raised to the border of the robe at his neck, and holding part of his robe in his left hand.

A figure of great significance, the right hand drawing aside part of his robe, and exposing the leg in curious hose, the left leg covered by his robe (supposed to be Prince Robert "Curthose," Duke of Normandy).

A crowned figure of great beauty, the head slightly bent to the left, having a melancholy expression. (Both hands gone).

A sitting figure, with the left arm a-kimbo resting upon the ancle of the right leg, which is folded over the left knee. (This figure is in a very dilapidated state).

A knight, with his helmet closed, a shield on his left side. (This figure is in a very dilapidated condition).

A knight, in chain-armour under the surcoat. (The right arm gone, but, from the attitude, he appears to have drawn his sword; the left hand probably held the scabbard. The head of the figure is gone since Carter's etching).

A queen or princess, with a very youthful expression. (The right hand gone, and the left arm to the shoulder, otherwise in good preservation).

Female figure, the head enclosed in whimple and weepers, holding in the left hand a cup or vessel; the right hand on the edge of the cup, the fingers dipping in.

Female figure, with a hood over her head, holding in her right hand the bottom of a chalice, and holding with her left hand the fold of her dress in front.

A female figure, with flowing hair (both hands gone).

A female figure, with drapery in front like a chasuble (hands gone).

A male figure, holding some vessel in his right hand, covered with a cloth, the end of which was in the left hand.

A male figure, which held some drapery in front.

Male figure (very much decayed).

Ditto ditto

THIRD TIER.

A sitting bishop (the head gone, lower part in fair preservation), the drapery very fine.

A standing bishop, fully vested in alb, dalmatic, and chasuble, in the attitude of benediction. (Hands gone, but otherwise well preserved).

A priest standing, fully vested (the front much decayed).

A female figure, with flowing hair (the hands gone).

A queen, with flowing hair, and long hanging lappets from the head, extending below the waist.

A bishop in chasuble, holding in both hands part of his head, probably S. Decuman. (The figure well preserved).

A knight in helmet, with cross-slit, holding his shield on the left arm, and the right arm held up; the surcoat opened from the waist downwards, showing the chain-armour.

A king seated (both hands gone; the front of the figure in very decayed condition).

A knight in surcoat and chain-armour, with the shield on his left side.

A figure with close-fitting robe, and a cloke with a handsome fastening.

A king, sitting in defiant posture, his left hand resting upon his knee, with a part of his girdle under it; his right leg resting on a stool, holding a charter in his left hand.

A king, standing upon a figure under his feet.

A king, sitting with the right hand on his knee.

SECOND TIER.

A figure without head-covering, trampling upon a small figure under his feet. (Hands gone.)

A figure of similar description (hands remaining).

A queen, with whimple, in flowing robe (hands gone.)

A queen, holding a book in her right hand, and her left hand placed upon the riband on her neck.

A king, of short stature, trampling upon a figure.

Another king of short stature. (Very much decayed.)

A king, sitting with right arm uplifted, the left resting upon his knee. (This statue fast decaying.)

A king, holding a chalice in his left hand, trampling a figure under his feet.

A king, with his left arm raised, his hand placed on his breast, trampling a figure under his feet.

A king, trampling a figure under his feet.

A king, trampling a figure under his feet.

A sitting figure with a flat cap on his head.

The series of subjects representing the resurrection, and the scriptural subjects filling the quatrefoils on the lower tier, though much decayed in parts, are not perishing rapidly, and may escape further deterioration for some time.

SECOND TIER.

King seated, the left arm raised, the right hand rested on his knee, holding a charter. (The figure well preserved.)

A monk.

Bishop fully vested.

Bishop vested.

Bishop vested.

Bishop seated (arms gone, figure much decayed).

Priest.

Female figure, holding a cup in the right hand.

Figure with long curly beard, a satchel hung on his girdle.

Figure vested with a girdle and massive curly beard and bag.

Bishop with a high mitre, holding a book in right hand.

Similar figure.

Bishop seated, but without a mitre. (Carter shows a mitre.)

Bishop seated; modern head and shoulders.

Bishop.

Bishop.

Bishop.

Bishop.

Bishop sitting. (Figure good, but split by cramps).

Bishop blessing.

Bishop.

Figure with curly hair and double robe, with cowl on head.

Figure with more curly beard. (It is much desired to be known what order of ecclesiastical or civil officers these figures represent).

Bishop seated.

PAPERS RELATING TO THE
Church of Martock and the Priory
of Bruton,
IN THE ARCHIVES OF ST. LO.

BY THE REV. CANON BERNARD.

THE Archives of St. Lo, in the arrondissement of La Manche, Normandy, afford many evidences of the close connexion for some time existing between the Dioceses of Bath and Wells and of Coutances—particularly in reference to the Church of Martock and the Priory of Bruton. In passing through St. Lo, I visited the Bureau des Archives, and found that the manner in which the documents are preserved and arranged is a lesson with regard to our own.

On my asking M. Dubos, the archeviste, for some further information after my return, he most courteously and kindly took the trouble to send me the following extracts, which, it is possible may throw some light on points of local history connected with this county. These extracts were submitted by F. H. Dickinson, Esq. at the last annual meeting of the Society, and a desire was expressed

that they should be printed in the volume of the Society's Proceedings.

IN THE ARCHIVES OF LA MANCHE.

I. MARTOCK.

1. Charter of Richard, Bishop of Winchester,* restoring to the Abbot of Mont St. Michel the Church of *Mertoc*, which he had for some time held of the Abbot aforesaid.

Seal of the Bishop—inscription effaced; counter-seal complete: † SVM CVSTOS ET TESTIS SIGILLI.

2. Charter of Reginald, Bishop of Bath, granting the monks of Mt. St. Michel v. marks as pension from the Church of *Mertoc*. Witnesses: Alexander, Dean of Wells; Walter, Prior of Bath. 1190?

3. Letter of Reginald (Rainalour), Bishop of Bath, to his friend Jourdain, Abbot of Mt. St. Michel, announcing that he has given the vicarage of *Mertoc* to William of Mertoc, Clerk, on the presentation of the Prior of Otritone† made in the name of the aforesaid Abbot.

4. Charter of Savaric, Bishop of Bath, for iv. marks of silver. *Mertoc*. Compare No. 2.

Seal: SAVARICVS DEI GRA. BATHONIENSIS EPISCOPVS.

5. Same character.

Seal somewhat injured: SAVARICVS DĪ GRA. BATHO . . . ON. EPS. (Bathon: et Glaston:?)

6. Same character.

Seal: SAVARICVS DĪ GRA. BATHON. ET GLASTON. EPS.

7. Charter of Joscelin, Bishop of Bath, announcing that the Abbot of Mt. St. Michel has given up to him the

* 1174-1188.

† Otritone (No. 3 and 11) is probably Otterington or Otterton, in Devon. *Dugdale Mon.* 7, 1033.

patronage of the Church of *Mertoc*; he recites the charter of the Abbot Raoul: the Bishop grants in exchange the priest's manor, half the church land, half the tithes &c. 21st year of the episcopate of Joscelin, viz., 1226.

8. Charter of Thomas, Prior, and of the Convent of Bath, reciting and approving the above. After 1228.

With seal of the Church of St. Peter. Counter-seal of the Prior Thomas.

9. Charter of Peter, the Dean, and of the Chapter of Wells, approving the same.

Seal injured.

10. Bull of Clement IV for the possessions and part of the tithes of the churches (ecclesiarum) of *Mertoc*. Third year of his pontificate, viz., 1267.

11. Letter to the Abbot of Mont St. Michel, from the Prior of Otritone, concerning the tithes of *Mertoc*. The rector of *Mertoc* is Clerk to the King, and Treasurer of Wells.

12. Charter noticing the consecration of the Church of St. Thomas at St. Lo, on August 5th, 1174, by Reginald, Bishop of Bath, at the request of Richard, Bishop of Coutances. A copy of 1564.

II. BRUTON.

1. Letter from William of Moion* to Hugh, Bishop of Coutances, announcing that he has given to his Canons of *Briveton* the Church of Moion and the Church of Taissy—"habendas post decessum fratris mei." Without date. Original.

* A Priory for Black Canons was founded at Bruton by Earl William of Mohun in the reign of King Stephen. It is said that this foundation took the place of a house of Benedictine monks. The foundation charter is directed to Robert, Bishop of Bath. In 1525, William, Bishop of Megara, suffragan of Bath and Wells and Prior of Bruton, caused this Priory to be changed into an Abbey.

2. Letter from Bishop Hugh and the Chapter of Coutances to the Prior and Convent of *Britonia*, confirming the above gift. Without date. Original.

3. Charter of Bishop Hugh and of the Chapter of Coutances, reciting a deed of William of Moion, in which he writes to his men, both of France and England, that he grants to the Canons of *Briwetone* all rights which he has in the churches and ecclesiastical fiefs of all his land, both in Normandy and England, viz., the Churches of Moion, Tessi, and Beaucondrai; in the revenue of Maisons; in the Church of Bruikelai, in the Church of Manehafd, in the Chapel of Toteberga. 1221. Original.

4. Charter of Hugh, Bishop of Coutances, instituting the Prior of *Briutonia* a Canon of Coutances, and assigning him as a prebend the Churches of Moion and Pierreville, 1222. Original.

5. Charter of Robert de la Haie, Knight, making over the third sheaf of the tithes of Moyon to the Prior and Convent of *Breuton*. 1237. Original.

Lucie, fille de Richard de Vernon, etait femme de Robert. D.

6. Charter of Robert de la Haye concerning same.

7. Confirmation of same by Hugh, Bishop of Coutances.

8. Charter of Hervé, Canon of Coutances, selling his Manor of Moyon to the Prior of *Bruicton*, 1254. Original.

9. Letter from same, putting Robert, Prior of Lyons, Proctor in Normandy of the Priory of Bruton, into possession of aforesaid Manor, 1254. Probably contemporary copy.

10. Letter from William de Grifell, Viscount of Falaise, selling to the Abbot of Troarn a Manor at Moyon, which belonged to Hervé the Breton, Canon of Coutances, 1262. Contemporary copy.

11. Charter of King Louis IX, reciting and confirming, in 1256, a charter of same date, by which Alain of Avangour, Lord of Moion, confirms to the canons of *Bryetonne* all the right which they affirmed that they had in the Church of Moyon. Original.

12. Charter of Jeanne de la Pommeraye, daughter of Henry of Moyon, confirming the gift made by William of Moyon to the Church of St. Mary of *Briwtona*, of the revenue of Maisons—that is to say, of the tithes of his demesne of Maisons, part of the fief of Moyon.

13. Letters of Louis of Estouteville, Lord of Moyon, agreeing that the monks of Trouarn* should enjoy the rights which they have in the land of Moion, in consideration of a conditional exchange (*permutacion japieca*†) made between them and the canons of Briewton, 1453. Original.

SIR,—Believing that the Priory of Bruton is situated in the county of Somerset, I send you an analysis of the different charters which concern this Priory.

The parishes of Moyan, of Tessy, and of Beaucondray are situated in the arrondissement of St. Lo; Pierreville belongs to the arrondissement of Cherbourg; Maisons to the department of Calvados.

I have the honour, &c.,

DUBOS.

* Roger of Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, gave to the Abbey of St. Martin, which he founded at Troarn, in Normandy, the Manor of Horsley, in Gloucestershire. The Prior and Convent of Bruton, before 29 Ed. I, gave some of their land in France, viz., the Church and Manor of Lion sur mer, to the Abbot and monks of Troarn in exchange for Horsley, which then became a cell of Bruton.—See Tanner. *Notitia*.

† hypothetica ?

LIBELLUS DE LAUDIBUS DUARUM CIVITATUM ET SEDIUM EPISCOPALIIUM, WELLIÆ SILICET ET BATHONIÆ, PER THOMAM CHAUNDELER, CANCELLARIUM WELLENSEM, COLLECTUS.

EDITED BY REV. GEORGE WILLIAMS, B.D.

Ad literatissimum præsulem et dominum beneficentissimum dominum Thomam de Bekyntona Wellensem et Bathoniensem episcopum, in futuras laudes duarum civitatum et sedium suarum. Argumentum incipit.

Scio nonnullos, Reverendissime pater, clarè satis intelligere, et quodammodo admirari solere, adeò te deditum studio ac dicendi ac lectitandi exercitio, in iis maximè quæ diligentèr accuratèque perscripta sunt, cujus eloquentia non minus tuâ religione cognita et probata est, ut in hac re nemo sit te felicior. Sacri igitur hujus tui propositi intentio eo commendatione dignior ac laudibus accumulatio censi debet, quo laudabiliori causâ suscepta videatur. Etenim quæ a prioribus tradita sunt instituta veritatis, tu, non modo ingenio sed doctrinâ, par aut longè felicior, sectaris ea tantum quæ virtutis sunt, at quæ secus fuerint penitùs non admittis. Itaque cum hisce bonarum artium studiis apprimè eruditus sis, et hujuscemodi potissimè otiis vaces quæ sunt etiam negotiis præferenda, opere pretium credidimus, in tuas laudes, urbium ac civitatum tuarum laudationes, Welliæ et Bathoniæ, sub nominibus Fontium ac Balneorum, coram tuâ paternitate introducere. Quas proponent duo clarissimi ac ornatissimi viri, ac ipsi non

minori laude digni quam vigeant meritis, Andreas de Fontibus et Petrus de Balneis, invicem contententes ac de præeminentiâ et præsidentiâ earundem civitatum tuarum disceptantes; uterque cum literis et pulcherrimis donariis a suis urbibus tuæ magnificentiæ offerendis; inter quos lis et controversia gravis orta est, quæ ex illis tuis civitatibus antedictis aspectui tuo dignior judicanda sit, quæ amplexibus acceptior, et quis eorundem locus tuis sedibus ac pontificio sit aptior, tuisque honoribus congruentior. Quorum laudationes et orationes cum audieris, non tam dicendi ornatum, qui uberrimus illis adest, quam sententiarum vim ac diligentiam admiraberis. Mira equidem illa res est eloquentia, et eam paucorum ingenia ut debuit hucusque assequi potuere. Quamobrem nonnullos et graves et doctos viros scimus, qui cum parem rebus de quibus verba facturi sint eloquentiam præstare nequeant, studio tamen ac voluntate ducti, ea dicant ex quibus aliquando laudem et aliquando reprehensionem sunt consequuti. Moderanda igitur voluntas est, et cohibendus animus, ipsisque voluptatibus fræna injicienda sunt, nec solum quid possint homines, sed quid debeant cogitandum; et ita mortales suarum rerum pulchritudo delectet, ut nihil dignum in earum comparatione vilescat. Tam luculenter enim et ornatè proponent hi duo viri quis eorum tuum animum ad partem suam flectere atque allicere queat, ut nisi penitus attenderis facile adduci possis ut credas vera esse quæ ab eisdem referuntur: Sed demum rationibus partium auditis, ad pacis unitatem reduci sententiabitur; ac, demptis quæ circa fontes eorundem sunt contraria varietatibus, in quibus tam differunt, calido silicet et frigido, cum utrique fontes sint, ac remanere nomen fontium utriusque commune, ac uno sic te patre ac præsule sicut uno nomine congaudere. Ac tu interim gaude, Revendissime pater.

Explicit Argumentum. Incipit libellus de laudibus duarum Civitatum, Welliæ silicet ac Bathoniæ, sediumque Episcopaliū in eisdem. Et primo Andreas de Fontibus domino Episcopo suo dicit :

Claræ virtutis ac multæ prudentiæ pater, cujus fama et gloria per universum pæne orbem peculiari quadam laude prædicantur, tua humilis et devota oratrix, urbis Fontium communitas, tuæ sublimitati cum omnimodâ subjectione congratulationes tuis honoribus dignas ac infinitas gratiarum copias agit ; tuis atque victoriam de adversariis, concordiam cum amicis, et pacem cum tuis confirmari desiderat ; transmittitque tuæ sublimitati, Reverendissime Pater, has literas et munera cum reverentiâ et commendatione debitis prout decet.

Tenor literarum ab civitatis Fontium incolis transmissarum suo Pontifici est qui sequitur.

Reverendissimo in Christo patri et domino, domino Thomæ, permissione divinâ Wellensi Episcopo suæ paternitatis humillima oratrix, communitas civium ac incolarum urbis Fontium, obedientiam ac honores debitos tanto patri. Citra quam ad nostras pervenerit aures, sanctissime pater, pontificali te esse diademate insignitum, ac pastoralis sedis arcem adeptum, tanta sumus intus jocunditate et gaudio perfusi, quod omninò verba exultationis ac lætitiæ continere non possumus. Nihil profectò tanti nobis cordi est quam ut ubique terrarum doctissimi ac gloriosissimi viri ad pontificalis dignitatis apicem sublimentur. Tibi enim omnium virtutum genere clarissimo, vitâ quoque ac moribus spectatissimo, et jam pontificali mitrâ decorato, non ab re sed merito ac justissimè congaudere ac congratulari possumus. Sed ne paternitatem tuam, quam tot virtutum dotes pæne in cælum efferunt, in vilem humilemque sedendi locum delabi patiamur, inter nos quæsumus, qui omnium tuarum

civitatum et urbium florem gerimus, sedibus tuis aptissimum ac saluberrimum tuisque honoribus dignum, locum eligere, ac integre nobis tuum animum quietem et otium summe id affectantibus præstare non differas. Et ut ad tam gratissimum opus serenitatem tuam fortius animemus, duo totius mundi pulcherrima jocalia ad te transmittimus: candelabrum silicet aureum septiforme, secundum exemplar quod Mōysi in monte monstratum est, per manus Beseleel Hebrei artificiosè fabricatum; phiolam insuper nostrorum fontium aquæ vitæ similis cum oleo naturæ, ut ignibus fomentum præstet; quam ideo, tibi transmitti statuimus ut tuæ erga nos caritatis ignis incalescat, ac indies augmentetur. Et si quæ aliæ apud nos quas tua claritas concupiscat res fuerint, tuis quidem votis ac desideriis promptissimas semper invenies. Et valeat feliciter tua paternitas in magnam ætatem, Reverendissime in Christo pater. Scriptum in clarissimorum Fontium medio, Mensis Decembris die xxiii^o.

Finit Epistola domino Pontifici transmissa cum aureo candelabro et phialis aquæ vitæ.

Petrus de Balneis ab urbe Bathoniæ episcopo suo reverendissimo Epistolam affert; primo tamen honeste suæ legationis causam aperiens.

Petrus: Clarissime ac doctissime pater, quamquam in sancto ac beato otio reliquos qui supersunt dies ducere studuissem, rumor tamen ac fragor popularis, qui alis tam pervicibus continue volitat, canitiem ac gravitatem meam quam plenæ quieti consecrare disposui, ab hoc otio mentis detraxit, et per tam mihi longos viarum tractus huc tuæ reverentiæ tandem adduxit. Aiunt enim, ac verum est, cruentissium quendam ac sævissimum nostris incolis de Balneis hostem, Andream de Fontibus, infrunita facie intra palatium tuum ac usque ad conspectum celsitudinis tuæ in-

trepidè accessisse, et viperino more in tantum malitiam suam effudisse, ut a nostrâ clarissimâ ac ornatissimâ civitate de Balneis pristinos eidem debitos honores ac pontificii sedem ad suam ineptam et campestram villulam de Fontibus transferre, atque animum tuum, dignissime præsul, allicere sataget. Quamobrem ab sacrâ illa divinâ ac toti orbi famosissimâ Balnearum urbe splendidissimoque senatu, licet immeriti, legati fungentes officio, tuæ magnitudini, reverendissime pater, hos præclarissimos apices cum donariis humillime præsentamus.

Tenor Epistolæ est qui sequitur.

Nobis, Reverendissime in Christo pater, vita hominum inter tempora raptim currentia semper tendente ad vesperam, animus ac propositum fuerat, reliquam vitæ nostræ partem in pace et otio ducere ; fœdera quoque pacis ac concordiae cum omnibus totius orbis communitatibus in priore nostrâ ætate, dum calens ac fremens tempus nobis infuit, jurata et inita, illibatâ semper atque incontaminatâ fide servare : sed longè secus quam sperabamus accidisse, famâ ad aures nostras volitante, nobis intelligi datum est. Aiunt enim communitatem urbis Fontium, si tanto saltem nomine vocari mereatur, pacem hanc nostram turbare nequissimis machinationibus ac fictionibus suis velle ; et ob hanc rem ad te patrem optimum ambaxiatores donariaque misisse, ut nobis debitum cathedræ pontificalis honorem, at tuum quam maxime amorem ac animum auferre, atque in suam partem allicere ac flectere valeant. Sed, O gloriosissime præsul, hoc tantummodo priscum ac vetus est odium, quo Fontani homines in nos nostrarumque Balnearum incolas capitali semper inimicitia exarserunt. Hoc quidem gravissimè necnon odiosissimè ferunt nos a plurimis jam diebus eorum adeptos dominium ac honores. Noli, igitur, noli, præstantissime pater, vel eorum pollicitis aut muneribus flecti.

Reduc, obsecramus, ad memoriam claram nostri generis vetustatem, et quod a stirpe Regiâ originem traxerimus; nec sic te falsæ preces ac munera circumveniant, ut pacem ac concordiam inter te nobilissimum præsulem ac tuos nos dissolvant; sed partire nobis cor integrumque amorem tuum. At ne vacuis ad te scripsisse manibus, et sermone plusquam opere tuum nobis animum adoptasse videamur, mirram aloes, cæteraque illius naturæ aromata ac timiamata sublimitati tuæ transmittimus, quæ corpus tuum a corruptione infectoque ac pestilente aere fumigata semper custodiant. Et tua in ævum accrescat majestas, reverendissime in Christo pater. Scriptum apud Balneas septimo K^l. Januarias.

Finit Epistola domino Pontifici ab urbe Bathoniæ transmissa cum pane de granis paradisi et mirra aloes. Ægre ferens Andreas Petri legationem, contra eum mordaciter dicit.

Andreas: Scio, Petre, scio omnium te virorum pessimum, tantâ adversum nos malitiâ calentem, tantâ malignitate efferbuisse, ut nos omnesque nostrorum Fontium incolas canino dente non unquam mordere cesses. Miror te hominem prudentem, tanto senio constitutum, canos tuos in hanc miseriam deduxisse, ut declinantem vitam tuam jam sero iracundiæ ac invidiæ veneno apocupare, ac te ipsum intoxicare, et statum tibi terminare nitaris. Meum quidem est clarissimam Fontium urbem, et ipsum quam maxime templum, et cultores ejusdem, sic verbis ut operibus in omnibus defendere ac tueri. Quamobrem si quicquam adversum me crapulosus spiritus tuus eructare voluerit, ut id mox in horum præsentia fiat exopto. Ego te omnino non timeo.

Petrus ut dirimat lis, sub æquo Judice optat contendere.

Petrus: Admiror sanè te, Andrea, illam mihi tuæ invidiæ notulam obicere, ac in me retorquere velle, qua te et tuam

naturam semper fuisse infectam omnium ora testantur. Frequenter nos hanc litis ac controversiæ materiam iniisse peroptimè credo retines ; cui ut aliquando finem necesse est ponamus ; neque tu meis, nec ego tuis rationibus flecti volo ; contendamus ergo sub optimo Iudice, qui interrogatâ causâ, et plene examinatâ, auditisque rationibus, inter nos discernere queat, a cujus sententia appellare non liceat.

Andreas in Iudicem Danielem assentit.

Andreas : Si tantum, Petre, de senili tuo versuto ingenio confidas, ut sub æquo iudice contendere velis, habes hic nobilissimum et clarissimum virum Danielem, apud quem, si quicquam adversum me habueris, causam profer : In fastu et pompa verborum victor esse speras ; sed ego ampullosa verba tua non metuo.

Petrus æque suum in eundem Iudicem assensum præstat.

Petrus : Nec ego te, sapientissime Daniel, Iudicem recuso ; de hoc certus, quod tu, hominum justissime, in cujus pectore divinorum iudiciorum thesauri reconditi sunt, et propterea Hebreo nomine Iudicium Dei, appelleris, si positiones et orationes nostras æqua lance libraveris, cum triumpho tuo iudicio recedam.

Annuat Daniel Iudex, diem partibus præfigens.

Daniel : Nobis quidem, clarissimi et doctissimi viri, quibus ex vestrûm utriusque consensu hanc totius controversiæ materiam et litem dirimendam obtulistis, quam gratum ac acceptum erit vos ad unitatem et pacem reducere, et ob id solummodò in manus nostras causam libentius accepisse cognoscite. Terminum igitur quo proponere ac respondere debeatis præfigere nostrum est, quem IIII^o kl. Januarii volumus inexcusabiliter observari : hic nos paratos habebitis. Vos interim gaudete ac plaudite.

Adveniente præfixo die, jubet Daniel oratores dicere ; primo Andream.

Daniel: Nuper, carissimi viri, inter acutissimos et ingeniosissimos oratores, Andream de Fontibus ac Petrum de Balneis, de præeinentia ac præsidentia civitatum suarum, Fontium silicet ac Balnearum, lis atque controversia orta est; quæ ex illis conspectui sui Antistitis gratior ac placentior, suisque honoribus sedes aptior sit. Hodiernus dies tractandi et proponendi ex consensu partium statutus est. Assunt utrique ac quid velint animadvertite. Priùs tu, optime Andrea, pro tuâ parte loquaris.

Oratio Andreæ pro urbe Fontium.

Vellem mihi a Deo immortalis datum esset ut vel præclaræ Fontium urbi de qua dicturus sum parem eloquentiam præstare possem, vel certe meo erga illam studio meæque voluntati. Voluntas equidem mea, ut ego de meipso facile intelligo, nulla in re unquam fuit ardentior. Sed quia non omnia quæ volumus eadem nobis ac posse concessum est, quantum poterimus id in medium afferemus; ut non voluntas nobis, sed facultas potius, videatur defuisse. Et ipse satisfacisse mihi videbor, si quantum studio, disciplina, exercitatione dicendi, multis denique vigiliis assequutus sum, id omne in laudandâ hac urbe potissimum conferam. Quod igitur plerisque oratoribus dictum est, nescire se unde initium dicendi sumant, id profectò nunc mihi evenire, non verbis, quemadmodum illis, sed re ipsâ intelligo. Non solum, enim, quia multæ sunt res ac variæ inter se ultro citroque connexæ, verum quia ita præclaræ omnes, ac quodammodo egregiæ sunt, ut inter se ipsas de excellentiâ certare videantur, nec facilis sit deliberatio quænam in dicendo sit anteponenda: sive enim pulchritudinem ac nitorem urbis intueare, nihil dignius videri potest; sive potentiam aut opes, illud omnino censebis præferendum. Ac si res gestas vel in nostrâ ætate vel in superiori tempore contempleris, nihil tanti videri potest ut illis anteponatur. Cum verò mores

institutaque consideres, nihil omninò arbitraris præstantius. Hæc me dubium tenent, sæpèque de altero dicere parantem alterius recordatio ad se revocat, nec deliberandi permittunt facultatem. Ego tamen undè aptissimum putabo, inde initium dicendi sumam, quod quidem credo etiam æmulos non esse improbaturus. Ut enim nonnullos filios videmus tantam habere cum parentibus similitudinem, ut in ipso aspectu manifestissimè cognoscantur; ita huic nobilissimæ atque inclitæ urbi Fontium tanta cum suis civibus convenientia est, ut eos neque alibi quam in illa habitasse, nec ipsam alios quam hujusmodi habitatores habuisse, summa ratione factum videatur. Nam quemadmodum ipsi cives naturali quodam ingenio, prudentia, eloquentia, et magnificentia, ceteris hominibus plurimum præstant, sic et urbs prudentissimè sita ceteras omnes urbes splendore, ornatu, ac munditia superat. Neque enim jactantèr summis in montibus collocata est, ut inde se præclarè ostentare posset, nec rursus in latissimo camporum æquore. Non enim in summis montibus habitare licet sine adversa cœli intemperie, sine ventis, sine procellis, sine summa habitatorum incommoditate atque molestia. Nec rursus in immensâ vastâque planitie absque humiditate soli, absque impuritate aeris, absque caligine nebularum. Has igitur incommoditates fugiens hæc nostra civitas eo in loco posita est, ut, quod in omni re probatur maxime, medium sit inter extrema sortita, et procul ab iniquitate montis ac fastidio planitiei remota. Sic tamen utrumque complectitur, ut neutrius utilitatis sit expers, et mirâ cœli suavitate fruatur. Objecti enim ad orientem et septentrionem montes, quasi propugnacula quædam urbis, ingentem vim frigoris et furentes impetus repellunt, Ad austrum verò, cujus vis minor est, humiliores muniunt colles; ad occidentalem autem partem apertissimi se explicant campi. Itaque

plurima in his locis tranquillitas est, summaque temperies : a quibus cum discedis, quocumque progrediaris, aut te frigora majora excipiant, aut solis ardores. Quid dicam de frequentia populi ? de gloriosissimo atque ornatissimo templo immortalis Dei Apostoli Andreae ? de sacri palatii ac ceterorum ædificiorum splendore ? omnia conspicua sunt ac egregiâ pulchritudine ornata. Sed ea melius ex comparatione aliarum quam ex seipsis licet cognoscere. Nulla denique est aliarum cui non aliquid maximarum rerum desit ; quoniam hæc populo caret ; illa ædificiorum ornatu ; alia est ita immunda, ut, quicquid sordis noctu factum est, id mane ponat ante oculos hominum, et pedibus per vias calcandum subiciat : quemadmodum, Petre, in illa tua foetidâ ac sulphurêâ villâ de Balneis, quâ re nihil foedius excogitari potest ; ubi si mille essent regiæ, si inexhaustæ divitiæ, si infinita populi multitudo, contemniam tamen foetidissimam urbem illam, nec ullius unquam existimabo. Cui autem urbi pulchritudo deest, summum maximumque ornamentum deesse quis non videt ? Hanc vero nostram Fontium civitatem usque adeo mundam atque abstersam cernimus, ut nusquam aliquid reperiaturnitidius, nihil in ea foedum oculis, nihil tetrum naribus, nihil pedibus sordidum offendas. Summâ diligentîâ habitatorum cuncta ejusmodi cauta ac provisâ sunt, ut omni turpitudine procul semotâ, ea tantum incurras quæ lætitiâ ac jocunditatem sensibus queant afferre. Quippe nos ipsos, qui eam habitamus, cotidie hæc habet admiratio, nec consuetudine satiari possumus. Quod si quis est qui propterea deesse aliquid bonorum huic urbi arbitretur quod maritima non sit, is meo judicio longissimè errat, et quod laudare debet id in vitium vertit. Est enim maris vicinia vendendis comparandisque rebus forsitan utilis ; ceterum salsa atque amara nimis. Permulta sunt, quippe incommoda, quibus maritimæ

urbes obnoxiae sunt, permulta pericula quibus subjacere habent necesse. Plato Atheniensis, omnium philosophorum longissime princeps, cum civitatem quæ benè ac beatè viveret in suis libris institueret, tam quæ adesse, quæve abesse oporteret diligentissime perquireret, in primis quidem censuit, ut procul a mari esset remota. Nec putavit sapientissimus vir eam urbem modo beatam posse esse, quæ aut in littore posita foret, aut maris fluctibus esset propinqua. Quod si auctoritas minime illos movet qui fluctus ac littora tantopere amant, antiquitatis saltem commovebunt exempla. Lege Latinales; lege Græcas historias; ac in his animadvertite quam multi sunt casus, quam crebra excidia maritimarum urbium; quam multæ civitates, cum florerent opibus ac populis, a classe prius hostium fuerint captæ, quam quicquam tale potuerint suspicari. Itaque tamen hæc civitas propinquo fruitur mari, ut puram ex illo capiat utilitatem, nullis adversis rebus perturbatam, nullisque calamitatibus immutatam: verum pulcherrimarum rerum affluencia et dives ac semper sponte se offerens. Ad dicendum materia impetu quodam et violentia hucusque me rapuit, nec ullam consistendi præbuit facultatem. In cetero enim splendore ac magnificentia hujus inclitæ urbis referendâ occupatus, quasi oblitus mei, de multitudine populi, de virorum copiâ, de virtute, industriâ, humanitate civium dicere pæne effugerat; quæ maxima ornamenta sunt, in primisque memoranda. Cujusmodi igitur habitatores hujus urbis sint, breviter demonstrabitur. Nemo hic injuriam pati potest, nec quisquam rem suam nisi volens amittit. Parata semper judicia; parati magistratus; patet utraque curia; nec locus ullus est in terris in quo jus magis æquum sit omnibus. De honestate vitæ ac sanctimonia morum quis satis dignè possit referre? Maxima quidem in hac urbe ingenia sunt. Sive enim ad arma, sive

ad rem publicam gubernandam se conferent, sive ad studia aliqua, rerumve cognitiones, aut ad dicendum, sive ad mercaturas, in omni re omnique actione cunctos mortales longissimè anteeunt, nec ulli penitus genti cujusquam excessus locum relinquunt : patientes laborum, præsentes periculis, gloriæ avidi, pollentes concilio, eloquentes, liberales, magnifici, jocundi, affabiles, maximeque urbani. Animadvertat igitur nobilis ille suus Antistes nobilem locum, electus electum, suis sedibus studiosissimè ac diligentissimè præparatum, et hanc sibi sponsam tantis ac tot ornatam monilibus præeligat ; illam vero miseram de Balneis villulam, aut veriùs Babiloniam præ confusione, nec secus quam decet ac demeretur, in ancillam suis usibus deputet. Quis præsulum ac pontificum sedibus locus aptior, cum nihil omnino prætereà sit quod ulla civitas possit optare ? Quid ergo causaris, misera Babilonia, invida ancilla, si cum ornatâ sponsâ, liberâ suâ virtute et auctoritate dignâ, contrahat dominus tuus ? Quo, putas, ornamento hæc civitas caret ? Aut quid sibi ad summam laudem atque amplitudinem deest ? Num gloria, quæ præclaras res tanta industria gesserit ? Num splendor ædificiorum ? Num ornatus ac divitiæ ? Num multitudo populi ac salubritas et amœnitas locorum ? Et jam quid superest nisi summum Numen pro his omnibus venerari ? Tu, ergo, Deus Omnipotens atque Immortalis, cujus delubra atque aras hic tuus populus religiosissimè colit ; Tuque, Andrea, sanctorum mitissime, quem sibi patronum hæc civitas adoptavit, cui ingens templum ex puro et nitidissimo marmore in eadem construitur, hanc pulcherrimam ac ornatissimam urbem populumque ejus ab omni clade ac malo ac summo opere ab hujus obtrectantis inimici latratibus custodite ac defendite in ævum. Amen.

Laudat Daniel Orationem Andrææ pro Fontium urbe ; jubetque dicere Petrum pro sua.

Clarè ac doctè satis, acutissime Andrea, et non secus quam ingeniosum decet perorasti. Quod tu pro tuis Balneis velis introducere, Petre, in lucem profer.

Oratio Petri pro Balneis.

Indignantè nimis tuli laudes tuas, Andrea, quas campestri et immunitæ villulæ de Fontibus tribuis plenas levitatis ac supinitatis. Ita loqueris contra præclaram urbem nostram de Balneis ac si neminem pro ea responsurum atque adeo neminem non assensurum tuis ineptiis putares. In quo libet videre tuam non modo levitatem, sed incredibilem de te ipso opinionem. At ipse quoque stilus tuus laxus est ac fluens, enervatus, ac gravitate ac ingenio carens. Sed hominem hunc levem mea gravitate castigabo, et somnolentum ac hebetem meo acumine ac pugione prosternam. Principio quidem, igitur, magnæ prudentiæ existimo ad laudandam inclitam urbem de Balneis, nihil ad ostentationem facere, nec periculosam, ut idem ait, jactantiam sequi. Æquum est enim pro patriâ ac pro veritate verba facientem assensum promereri. Unde igitur exordiar? an ut pictores solent? Sic equidem existimo. Id erit quam aptissimum dicendi initium. Pictores itaque cum celeberrimas imagines effingere student, primum ideam quampiam excellentem ac venustam mente concipiunt. Deinde stilo manus applicant, ac prius verticem, ac, ut ita dicam, vultum, coloribus liniunt; subinde in reliqua membra distinguunt. Itidem nos cum præstantissimam urbem describere velimus, ab ipso veluti capite sumemus exordium. Id autem quale erit? Puto equidem, si templum Apostolorum, ac incontaminatam religionem recensuerimus, quibus hi sanctissimi ac Deo immortalī dedicatissimi viri legibus ac institutis regantur, quæ a patribus ac majoribus tradita sunt, haud parum interest. Non enim cultus et religio eorum ejuscemodi est ut quæ optima ac præcipua habeat universa ponat ante oculos hominum, ac

veluti sollicita quædam meretrix superficiem solum curare cupiat, et culta nimis in publicum prodire, quod in plerisque templis ac religionibus, et in illis maxime de Fontibus ex abundanti fieri videmus; ceterum ut diligentem, prudentemque virginem decet, oleum sibi reservare. Cui dignitas magis peculiare bonum sit, hæc leviora haud multi facit; introrsus autem majora quædam, et conscientiæ puritate digniora, Dei ac Apostolorum ipsorum obtutibus reservat fruenta: ex quo fit ut cum vultum, ac, si ita dicam, cultum illius religionis prospexeris, formosa nimis et decens fit, ceteraque præ illius venustate vilescent. Sed in illâ vili et sordidâ villulâ de Fontibus secus atque longe se aliter habet; cujus incolas propter lautas et splendidas epulas, cantus, tripudia, saltus, choreas, quæ omnia ad voluptatem incitamenta sunt, impudicis sermonibus, stultitiis, ineptiis, et libidini deditos, ac turpitudini maxime laxatos esse, quis non facile judicet? quæ ubi reperiuntur, proculdubiò, si non promptius expellantur, ultimum eidem ruinam minantur. In nostrâ autem urbe nihil prorsus ipsâ voluptate, nihil hujusmodi spurcitiis execrabilius, ac auditui nihil horrendum magis. Si quis eam nosse cupit, accedat, urbem peragret, pertranseat; insistat, inquiret, ac contempletur. Et quid ego de situ loci dicam? nihil eo magnificentius aut ornatius. Inter hæc frondosi luci, florida prata, lætissimi rivi, nitidissimi fontes, ac, quod omnia superat, natura ipsa locorum ad lætitiâ nata. Videntur enim colles ipsi ridere quibus cingitur urbs, et quamdam a se diffundere jocunditatem, qua intuentes expleri non possunt, nec videndo satiari; ut universa circâ regio paradisi quædam recte haberi et nominari queat, cui nihil ad pulchritudinem vel ad lætitiâ in toto orbe sit par; sic virentibus pratis, sic profecto saluberrimis herbis hæc civitas undique septa est, ut nihil videri possit illustrius. Ad hanc videndam multi mortales famâ pulchritudinis, ac sani-

tatis gratiâ allecti conveniunt, atque adeo hujus urbis magnificentiam ornatum ac copiam intuentur, ut ceteras veluti famulas quasdam, hanc vero ceterarum dominam esse fatentur. Ipsam denique quantum suâ magnitudine occupat, speciosissima murorum sepit corona, et nisi intus inspicatur, omnis ejus pulchritudo cognosci non potest. Non enim intra parietes minus ornamenti habet quam extra; nec una quam altera via decora aut nitida est, sed universæ totius urbis partes. Nam velut sanguis per universum corpus, sic ornamenta deliciæque per universam urbem diffusæ sunt. Quid de antiquitate et nobilitate generis ejus? Mihi quidem hæc omnia non mediocri laude videntur commendanda. Puto quoque multos ego mortales satis mirari, unde huic civitati tantæ opes, tanta denique omnium rerum facultas sit, quibus non dicam thesauris, sed auriferis est feta nimis, ex quibus pereximiam ipsius præstantiam ac potentiam licet agnoscere. Jam vero si aeris temperiem ac nitorem contempleris, facilè adduci possis ut credas nec alibi purius cælum, nec splendidior sole aut astra magis fulgentia te vidisse. Adde his calidorum fontium perennes liquores ad usus mortalium splendidissime præparatos, quibus, ut inquit Solinus, præsidet Minerva, in cujus æde perpetui ignes numquam canescunt in favillas. Quid hac re mirabilius ac beatius, quâ omnium ægritudinum omne genus hominum, sic pauperes ut divites, medicamenta recipiunt? Et quid ultra progredi oportet? Verum ut ad incepta redeamus, satis arbitror ex iis quæ diximus persuasum esse, nec virorum claritate, nec rerum aut sitûs excellentiâ, nec opum nec facultatum copiâ, aut nobilitate conditorum, illam prius derelictam ac inanem villulam Fontium huic nostræ aliqua ex parte esse præponendam. Ille profectò pontificum sedibus fortunatior locus est urbis, ubi cultus ac religio devotior, ubi status rei publicæ felicior, ubi potentia et opulentia fuerit affluentior,

locus ac aer salubrior, ac ab hostium impugnationibus tutior; quæ profecto excellentissimæ dotes sunt, quibus urbem quamlibet patrum sedibus præparandum decorari atque exornari oportet. Ista sunt quæ in laudandâ ac extollendâ præstantissimâ urbe conferre debui: meum est profectò viribus omnibus rempublicam verbis defendere. Et omnes quibus pietas, religio ac caritas odio est hujusmodi res negligunt: qui vero boni, liberales, haberi volunt, non patientur aliarum laudes suæ urbi anteferri; quemadmodum ego non patiar.

Finit Oratio Petri pro Balneis: quam ita impugnat Andreas.

Andreas: Mirum tam varia sunt ingenia hominum! Equidem permulti fatui inveniuntur, apud quos optimæ rationes parum roboris sint habituræ. Aliis quidem enim odiosa ipsa per se ac molesta est veritas. Alii verò sive malignitate naturæ, sive ignorantia rerum, nihil verum esse volunt, nisi quod ipsis fuerit gratum. Is me vanitatis insimulat, ac nihil sinceri dixisse calumniatur. Ægre atque ægre fero, Petre, vitam castissimæ urbis a te monstro omni teterrimo impugnari; doleo quoque tanta mentis vertigine te oppressum, ut auderes tuæ vitæ labem alteri obicere, ac ea reficere auribus audientium, quæ ne inquinatissimi quidem moribus sine summo dedecore possent exprimere; quæ tu, novus morum censor, in maledicendi consuetudine introduces. Nonne erubuisti honestatis ac pudicitiae? Nonne inquam, licet sis pallidus, vel paululum rubore perfusus es, cum ea a te prolata plena dedecoris sint, tuæ turpissimæ vitæ, tuæ exulceratæ mentis testimonia certissima? Tu nisi esses spurcissimus omnium quos nostra ætas tulit, nunquam profectò te in cno vilissimorum verborum tamquam immundus libens volutasses. At id omne recidet in illam faciem tuam impudicam. Existimasti, opinor, hujus ætatis pestis ne-

faria tibi laudi fore, si urbem optimam et integerrimam in laudandâ tuâ, probro ac spurcissimo stilo insectareris ; promisti etenim ab initio orationis tuæ te pictoris morem observaturum ; ac verum quia sordidum pinxisti leonem. Sed non metuimus picturas tuas ; non enim homines leones, etiam cruentissimas bestias, pictas metuere solent, sed horrere. Impudicitiiis tuis nolo tecum contendere ; sed unum est ; vide tibi ne quies ac otium tuum quæ sunt pessimarum rerum alimenta, tibi ad libidinem ac voluptatem incitamenta sint. Tria sunt in oratione tuâ, quibus tutus ac victor esse speras : primum quod urbem tuam speciosissima, ut asseris, murorum sepiet corona ; et rectè id in tuam laudem assumis, quod potius in vituperium sonat. Sic etenim sepiet eam murorum series ut præ eorum altitudine in vicinissimas partes fama atque virtus ejus vix evolare queant. Sed veritate fruamur. Ideo muri vobis dati sunt quod bestiales ac inurbani maximè sitis ; ac quemadmodum oves in caulis, aut asini in stabulis, sic serviles omnes interclusi estis, ac cœno et luto vestro vivitis, ut in aere aves, aut pisces in aqua ; et totiens erubescere debitis quotiens sepem illam intuemini, cum recolere per id valeatis interclusionis ac incarcerationis vestræ, et pristinæ servitutis. Ac quomodo claritate ac subtilitate ingenii pollentes fueritis, id ipsum demonstrat, quod ad publica universitatum aut studiorum loca nec unusquisquam penitùs ex vobis repertus sit. Quod ultra tuam civitatem nostræ ideo anteponendam contendis, quia vetustate gaudeat ; ac ego id tibi obicio, et ideo meam tuæ præponendam esse quod prius apud urbem Fontium quam plures sederint pontifices, quam in tua de Balneis ; quorum post Daniele, primum nostræ sedis Antistitem, qui et cathedram de villa Congari illuc transtulit, fuerunt numero ferme viginti. Et cum demum post multa tempora successisset Johannes quidam, natione Turonicus, et pro-

fessione medicus, hic, minorem gloriam putans si in unâ tantum urbe resideret inglorius, thronum sibi duplicari multis precibus ac muneribus adeptus est. Nec eâ gloriâ contentus suæ etiam avaritiæ satisfacere volens, eandem ab Henrico Rege quingentis, ut reperi, libris argenti mercatus est urbem. Hac denique occasione avaritiæ ac inanis gloriæ cathedra tibi delata est ; cum tamen prius melius ac salubrius collocata fuerit. Quod vero ultimo calidorum fontium tuorum perennes liquores ad ægritudines morbosque pellendos saluberrimos asseris, longe aliter est ; cum omnes insalubres ac foetidæ sint illic se lavantibus, ac odore sulfuris advenientibus graves, cum neque consuetudo sensûs horrorem compescere queat : nec mirum, cum natura sine gravibus suis querelis tantam injuriam vix patitur, ut quæ a forma intrinseca habeant ut sint frigidæ, sic a longissimis temporibus violentæ calescant aquæ. Sed id certissimum est, nullum violentum perpetuum ; et juxta Aristotelis regulam, omne violentum aut aliquando corrumpi, aut ad suam redire naturam. Ac sic quos tu perennes vocas, necesse est aliquando aut non esse, aut si permaneant, frigidos esse, ac naturalem qualitatem sibi resumere. Et quemadmodum de tuis fontibus est, ut qui prius frigidi fuerint postea calefiant, et impossibile est sic permanere ; eo etiam modo honores ac gloriam tuam, quam tibi subdolè usurpaveras ac avaritiâ tuâ, necesse est aliquando aut corrumpi, aut demum ad nostros naturales fontes et pristinos retrocedere. Desine igitur, Petre, ac derelinque furorem tuum ; ac jam tandem rationi victum te submitte ; neque ultra pro illâ incomptâ ac vili ancillulâ verberes aera. Optimè scio retines quod dixi. Nemo se tuto diu periculis offerre tam crebris potest, quoniam quem sæpe pertransit casus aliquando invenit. Cur minas vultu geris, ac qualis animo es ? Num æterna semper odia mortales

agent? aut cœptus nunquam cedit ex animis furor? Velle reduci pacem, victori expedit. Victo necesse est submittere. Nobis contingit dexteram. Quid truci vultu siles? Sed vereor ne prius exstinguet ortus referetque occasus diem; pax ante nivibus et flammis erit, quam voto acquiscere nostro velis. Quid ultra est? Una res superest mihi fratre ac parente carior, deliciis, ac regno. Favor iudicis quem accommodatum mihi ac ex populo communem gaudeo: quota enim pars astat, mecum est. Quid igitur super his velit tua sapientia, disertissime atque semper æquissime Daniel, libens expecto.

Admiratur Daniel eloquentias oratorum, sententiatque præferendos esse Fontes, ac digne suum præsulem appellari debere Wellensem Pontificem.

Admiranda nimis mehercule res est eloquentia. At si rectè judicare voluerimus, nihil in humanis rebus illâ præclarius esse aut utilius profitebimur. Cicero equidem, omnium Latinorum flos, non minùs verè quam elegantèr de ipsâ refert, cum illam rerum dominam appellet, quæ primum efficit ut et ea quæ ignoramus discere, ac ea quæ scimus alios docere possimus. Cum eadem coartamur, persuademus afflictos, consolamur perterritos, a timore deducimus, gestientes comprimimus, cupiditates iracundiasque restinguimus; ac per eam juris, legum, urbium societate conjungimur, cum nos ab inani et ferâ vitâ segregârit. Quæ nobis religionis percipiendæ spes, quæ ad virtutem quamlibet adhortatio, quæ via denique bene vivendi linqueretur, si doctorum hominum ac eloquentissimorum patrocinium nobis dederetur; quorum suavissimis verbis ornatâque facundiâ sic ad religionem plerumque excitamur, sic caritatis vinculis astringimur, ut terrena omnia præ illius venustate sordere videantur. Nec est quod quisquam a me Ciceronem solum aut veteres illos laudari putet, quorum profectò in oratione multa gravitas, multa suavitas, ac ad virtutem religionemque

mira est adhortatio. At vero si modò nostri temporis clarissimos et eloquentiæ studio deditissimos viros, Andream de Fontibus, ac Petrum de Balneis de medio auferas, quid est amplius quod non tenebris persimile videatur esse ; ut si solem, ut aliquando futurum putant, é cœlo Deus aut natura dejecerit. Quis enim tantam verborum sententiarumve tam clarissimorum virorum contradictionem, ac quasi vehementem impetum collisionemque quandam fluctuum, queat sustinere ? Tam elegantè etenim in laudandis suis urbibus exorsi sunt, velut si quis Helenam illam formosissimam eximiis laudibus ornare cupiat ; prius ne nobilitatem generis expediet, quæ Jove ac Leda genita sit ; An pulchritudinem quæ a Venere præ omnibus formosior sit habita ; An virtutem, quæ elegantè canere ac psallere docta fuerit : An ornatu corporis præstare contendat, quæ purpureis auratisque vestimentis uti assueverit : An leporem potius loquendi anteponat, quod ex ore narrantis suavitate quadam allekti penderent homines ? Hæc, inquam, si quis in animo volutet, quid convenientius dictu sit ignorat ad eximiam pulchritudinem venustatemque ostendendam. Sic isti, cum optimas et pulcherrimas urbes laudare instituerint, omni virtutum genere claras, ac admiratione certe dignas contulere sententias. Itaque professioni suæ debitum crediderunt, ut quam ipsi in dicendo facultatem adepti sunt, in laudandis et extollendis præstantissimis civitatibus conferrent ; ac veluti testimonium quoddam pietatis erga patriam, erga optimum ac beneficentissimum præsulem, exponerent. Quid enim minus dignum, aut quid a bonis moribus alienius est, quam cum ipse nec patriam tueri, nec rempublicam verbis defendere velis, non congratulari iis, qui communem causam susceperint ? Omnes verò, ut tuipse, Petre, asseris, qui boni, qui liberales haberi voluerint, istiusmodi res faciunt ; ac quibus pietas, religio, caritas odio est, eas res negligunt. Uterque vestrum certe laudandus,

ac præmiandus est uterque corona, uterque lauro dignus, gloriose enim utrinque perorastis, uterque pro parte suâ quam lucidissime proposuit. Et quomodo æqua lance rationes vestræ librandæ sint, et quomodo sententiari debeat, haud facile dici potest. Iste, profectò, Andreas proponit antiquitatem ac prioritatem sedis, ac civium humanitatem ac liberalitatem, templi decorem, ac cultorum ejusdem magnificentiam, ac quam saluberrimum loci situm : et Petrus e contrario suæ urbis ornatum ædificium, incontaminatam religionem, felicem rempublicam, et speciosissimâ murorum serie septam urbem ; fontes insuper calidos, miro splendore ad usus mortalium præparatos, ac situm jocundiores ac gratiores asserit : et quid superest nisi vehementer dolendum esse tam splendoras ac ornatas urbes, ac omni pæne virtute decoras, solâ illâ virtutum januâ et principissâ, Caritate, destitui ? sine quâ, etiam optimarum ac virtutum genera parum aut nihil conferre videntur : quod ex testimonio Sancti illius ac immortalis Deo cari doctoris nostrarum gentium Pauli Apostoli luculentius apparet, cum dicat idem : “ Si linguis hominum loquar ac angelorum, caritatem autem non habeam, factus sum, velut æs sonans, aut cymbalum tinniens : ” et alibi “ Super omnia, autem hæc caritatem habentes, quæ est vinculum perfectionis. ” De hac itaque scribitur in sanctissimo illo Job : “ Posui vectem et ostia, et dixi, Hucusque venies, ac non procedes amplius ; hic confringes tumentes fluctus tuos. ” Quid hic per vectem nisi robur accipimus caritatis ? hanc itaque horum Fontium et Balnearum tumentes fluctus constringere necesse est. Facile autem omne virtutum bonum quibus ornatissimas urbes vestras prædicatis, destruitur, nisi ex intimis fixâ caritate solidetur. Quamquam enim Martha satagat circa frequens ministerium Domino exhibendum, nequaquam irasci debet Maria : Nec etiam si Maria sedens secus pedes Domini audiat ver-

bum Illius, non ideo Martha contristari debet. Utraque enim in templo Domini necessaria est; quæ ergo utriusque opera facit, hæc majoribus laudibus extollenda est. Si tui igitur, Petre, sancti ac Deo dedicatissimi viri sedeant et audiant cum Maria, neque ideo præparantem ac ministrantem Martham contemnendam reor; præsertim si Martha simul cum suo etiam officium Mariæ quam tutius assumat. Illam ergo de fontibus utramque vitam complectentem, activam scilicet ac contemplativam, primam et anteponendam esse censemus, ac discernimus; neque tua contemnenda est; utriusque enim sororis castellum intravit Summus ille Rex ac pontifex Jesus; utramque diligit; utramque amoris nexibus amplectitur; in utraque habitaculum Sibi eligere dignatus est; ac in utriusque corde sedit. Sic profectò tuus præsul ac pontifex ac utramque sororem diligit, utramque sibi desponsat, ac in utraque sedere dignatus est. Si ergo unus est vobis præsul, unus amator, ac unus sponsus, cujus totum amorem ac integrum cor adipisci, ac in suam partem flectere ac allicere quæque vestrarum urbium optet, pro qua re certatis et ipsas unum effici oportet. Omnem enim virtutem partitam ac dispersam necesse est adeo minorem ac remissiolem esse, quo non unita nec uni integrè accommodata sit. Unum igitur efficiamini, ut unum vobis cor, unum ac integrum amorem unus præsul accomodet. Neque enim diferunt inter se fontes naturales ac calidi in substantiâ fontium sed tantum in contrarietatibus accidentalibus, calido scilicet et frigido; quibus prorsus demptis accidentibus, remanebit substantia fontium eadem. Has igitur controversias, lites et contrarietates sic tollite, ac efficiamini unum. Considerate quantus sit unitatis appetitus in creaturis singulis, ut ex earum comparatione mentes vestræ ad unitatis appetitum amplius accendantur. Unde, precor, incisum digitum, aut quamquam corporis particulam, dolere sentis, nisi quia divisa est unitas continui-

tatis quam appetit? Elementa mundi contraria ac repugnantia, unde indissolubili concordia mundum componunt, nisi ex appetitu unitatis? Humores contrarii in corpore, unde servant temperamentum complexionis? Apes gregatim volant, regem sibi præficiunt: locusta regem non habet; tamen incedit unica per turmas. Unde hæc univ-
ersa, nisi propter amorem unitatis, conglobant? Figura namque sphærica super omnes alias maxime est unitiva; unde et gutta pluviae fluida in sphæricam figuram se colligit ex unitatis appetitu. Cur etiam omnium, precor, philosophorum sententia sit binarium primum omnium numeroque imperfectum, sane nisi quia primo ab unitate recedit? Si igitur omnes creaturæ tanto unitatis appetitu teneantur, ut sine eo nihil fiat, quanto magis vos, qui ac habitu et omni nominatione vestram unitatem profitemini quemadmodum nomine uno Fontium censi, ita unitate dilectionis ac caritatis vinculo astringi, debetis. Ille est enim caritatis ignis quem venit Dominus mittere in terram, non comburentem sed illuminantem, quem etiam partitus est Apostolis, dicens, "Luceat lux vestra in caritate quoad omnes," neque sibi soli lucere sub modio, sed super candelabrum; ut luceat omnibus qui in domo sunt, ac qui ingrediuntur lumen videant. Sic itaque luceat lux vestra, et ut omnes videamus, ac mutuæ dilectionis ac concordiae signa et omnes simus testes. Contingite dexteras et hanc unitatis notam osculo signate, in æternumque invicem diligite ac vivite. AMEN.

Finit sententia. Ad Insignem et literatissimum Præsulem dominum beneficentissimum, Dominum Thomam de Bekyntona Wellensem pontificem de laudibus duarum Civitatum et sedium suarum Libellus feliciter explicat. Et vivat in ævum ut sapiens iudex decrevit Wellensis Episcopus. Amen.

NOTICE OF SOME
Excavations made at Muchelney
IN 1873 AND 1874.

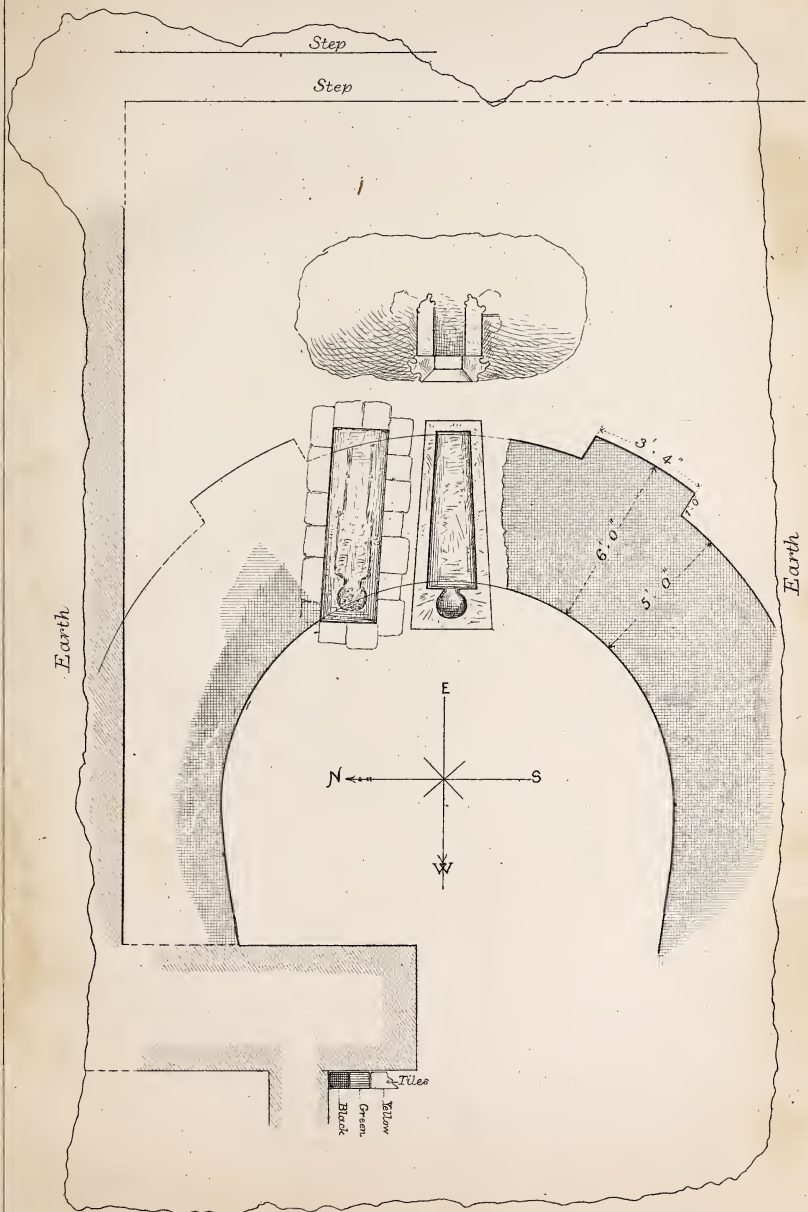
BY THE REV. S. O. BAKER, B.A.,
Vicar of Muchelney.

THERE are, probably, few persons at all interested in the Archæology of Somersetshire, who do not know Muchelney, at least, by name. Full details concerning the history of the Abbey, and concerning the principal remains of the building, may be found in the volume of the Society for the year 1858, in an exhaustive paper by the Rev. Thomas Hugo, illustrated by some of Mr. Clarke's charming sketches. It may be just mentioned, that, with the exception of one outbuilding, and, perhaps, two windows, there was nothing to be seen, at the time when that paper was written, of earlier date than the 15th century. The discoveries since made are of earlier work, and are of considerable value and interest. Between the north side of the Abbey House and the present churchyard is an orchard, known to be the site of the cloister, as a portion of the south side still remains, and also of the Abbey Church, but as to the exact position of the church there was considerable difference of opinion.

This appears now to be a settled point. During the winter of 1872, the tenant of the Abbey, Mr. James Westlake, had his attention directed to a heap of lime rubbish in this orchard, about 120 feet east of the present termination of the cloister, and four feet from the church-yard wall. The rubbish was wanted for use on the farm. The men who were removing the heap had dug but a very little, when they came upon a quantity of blue stone, apparently lias, shafting, all more or less broken, and Ham Hill stone, and encouraged by this, at five feet depth, came upon a flat blue stone, 6 feet 3 inches in length, 3 feet $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches across the top, 2 feet 8 inches across the bottom, and 4 inches thick. This stone was found to be a coffin lid, having on its face a rudely-cut pastoral staff, the crook turned to the left, with a Tudor rose in the head, but without inscription. This coffin lid was found thrown over on its face upon a tile pavement, extending, apparently, towards the east and west. Tidings of the discovery were sent to the owner of the property and parish, Walter J. Long, Esq., of Preshaw, Hants; and all was covered up, and awaited his arrival. In July, 1873, Mr. Long came to Muchelney, and, setting men to work, carried on the exploration for a fortnight. The remains of a wall on the north of the pavement was found, and this wall was followed towards the east, until three steps up were found, with tiled fronts to the risers, and tiled tops. The men then dug 23 feet to the south, at which point three similar steps were found, these being evidently the remains of steps, now destroyed, all across the eastern end of the building, up to a higher platform. The wall was traced indistinctly down the south side of the excavation for 29 feet, and the whole was then cleared out. All the central

portion of the floor has been torn up, and only portions of the encaustic tiling remained in position round the walls, 4 feet in width at the widest spot, where the coffin lid had been thrown. The tiles are of a red-brown colour, with patterns of creamy-white. They had been laid down without regularity; elephants, knights, fleur-de-lis, shields of arms, being set within borders of black, with white corner squares, at random. It has been suggested that they had been relaid, on an enlargement of the building, perhaps in the 15th century. There were many human bones in the débris, pieces of pottery—red and green, and three small pieces of green-stained glass. In the centre of the excavation was found a large Early English groining boss, very much broken, and a quantity of foliage of the same date, and groining ribbing of the same; and at each of the western corners an early Perpendicular boss, in good preservation. These have been painted red. A considerable quantity of window tracery was found, some of Decorated, and some of Perpendicular design, and moulding of the same period, one piece having the ball-flower in a hollow. The tiles were carefully lifted, and have been relaid in the sacrum of the parish church, as nearly as possible as they were found. The coffin lid has been laid within the west door. When the tiles had been taken up, under their bed of concrete we found a semi-circular, or horse shoe-shaped foundation, about 7 feet wide, and in the centre of this foundation, at the east end, a Ham-stone coffin, 7 feet $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, 2 feet 8 inches wide at the shoulder. It has a hollow for the head, and is laid close to the surface. It had been rifled, and the human remains in the débris had been taken from it. By the side of this coffin, on the north, we found a grave, walled at the sides,

PLAN OF FOUNDATIONS FOUND IN THE ORCHARD AT
MUCHELNEY ABBEY IN 1873.



Measured April 16th 1874 - J. T. Irvine del.

but not at the ends, and at the depth of 5 feet a skeleton, with folded arms, buried, apparently, without a coffin, though a few nails were found in the grave, with no remains of any dress, except two buckles of copper. The remains are those of a man of 6 feet in height, and the teeth, though sound, are much ground down. To the east of this early foundation the ground had been all broken up to a considerable depth, and a fire-place had been formed in a hollow at the foot of the coffin, of broken battlements, for the purpose of melting lead, much of which we found run into the loose earth. In July, 1874, the eastern platform was tried, but nothing was found. In digging at the south-west corner of the excavation made in 1873, we found a foundation, apparently of the same date as that found under the tiles, running from it in a curve to the south-west: on the north it appears to run in a similar way under the present churchyard. Foundations of corner buttresses are laid open about 64 feet to the south-west of the centre of the apse. We have also found the foundation of the north-east corner of a south transept, or of the cloister, and in the floor a walled grave, filled with mortar, and at a depth of 5 feet the skeleton of a tall man, about 6 feet in height, singularly narrow across the breast, and broad across the shoulders and hips. Near this a portion of cast lead pipe was found *in situ*, about 10 feet in length, leading, apparently, into the cloister from the church. There can be little doubt now as to the site of the Abbey Church, and we are almost sure as to its size and shape. We have the east end laid open, a small portion of the south side, and the south-east corner, probably of a south transept. We also know where the cloister stood, and its dimensions. The discovery is not a very large one, yet

it is one which is full of interest, and is valuable, as helping towards the tracing of the ground plan of this once important Abbey. Perhaps the reading of this paper may interest some one with knowledge of these things, sufficiently to move him to come down and solve some of the difficulties that we feel, so that valuable time and labour may not be wasted in digging holes at random and finding nothing.

Somersetshire Archaeological and

Natural History Society.

1874.

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1874.

As a list of the members of the Society has been already published this year, in Vol. XVIII, it does not seem necessary to add one to this volume.

The Society at present numbers 401 members, of whom the following have been elected since the publication of the last volume, in April, 1874 :—

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